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THE ULTIMATE BUYER'S GUIDE FOR MEN

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HOLLYWOOD INVADES BUT DO CREATORS GET PAID?

AMERICA'S MOST WANTED!
JAMES MCAVOY VS. COMMON

579

WAYS TO BURN MONEY THIS SUMMER!
MOTORCYCLES
LUXURY WATCHES
WATERPROOF GADGETS
AND THE ILLEST NIKE COLLAB EVER!

+

NAS
MEAGAN GOOD
OLIVIA MUNN

BATTLESTAR GALACTICA'S

GRACE PARK

FLIP FOR THE GUIDE TO WEDDING SMASHING!

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AIR
WOLFMOTHER

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THE LITTLE ONES
GOGOL BORDELLO
Velvet
IMOGEN HEAP
FASHION
WEBBIE
BLACK
ROBYN
BIZ
DIDO
SCARFACE
MICHELLE WILLIAMS
WALTER
SONS and DAUGHTERS
NAS
The Black Dahlia Murder
CHIODOS
MONARETA
ADELE
WISIN Y YANDEL
LOS TIGRES DEL NORTE
GUILTY SIMPSON
NE-YO
MEXICAN INSTITUTE OF
FREEWAY
SWIZZ BEATZ
GHOSTLAND OBSERVATORY
LITTLE BROTHER
DONOMAR
DRAGONETTE
THE KELIS
SWORD
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COMMON
MONEY MARK
NEON
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videos
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GET THE MUSIC COLLECTION OF A DJ WITHOUT SPENDING LIKE ONE

zune

Have you ever had a dry martini during monsoon season?
10 EXOTIC BOTANICALS FROM AROUND THE WORLD GIVE BOMBAY SAPPHIRE A REFINED, BALANCED TASTE.
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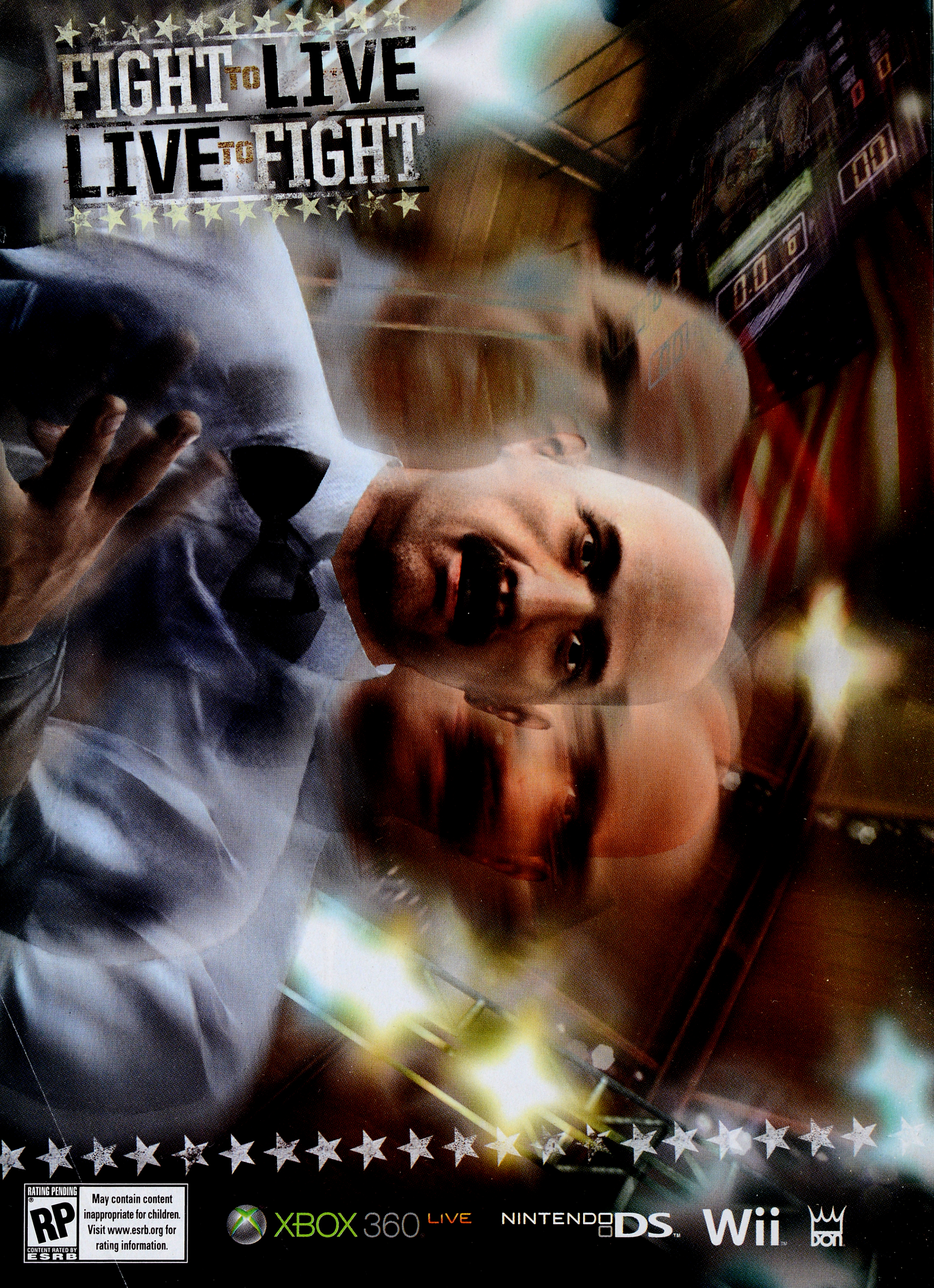
DRY GIN
PRODUCT OF ENGLAND
IMPORTED
BOMBAY SAPPHIRE
THE SPIRIT OF EXPLORATION
Bombay Sapphire. Explore Responsibly.


FIGHT TO LIVE
LIVE TO FIGHT
RATING PENDING
RP
CONTENT RATED BY ESRB
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XBOX 360 LIVE
NINTENDO DS
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THIS IS YOUR STORY.
From challenger to champion.
Through adversity and triumph.
Will you go down in history,
OR JUST GO DOWN?
You've got ten seconds.
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24” OF QUADANGLE CRUISIN’

LANDING GEAR

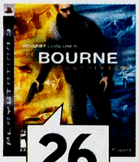
SE RACING
BMX INNOVATIONS
DC
DCSHOES.COM/QUAD

"I DON'T GET WHY PEOPLE WANT TO BE FAMOUS." —**GRACE PARK** **82**

THE ULTIMATE BUYER'S GUIDE FOR MEN

ADDICTED

BBQ goat, Olivia Munn's sexy pits, and more!



26 Video Games
28 Music
44 Trade Shows
34 Rides
36 Food
38 Liquors

LACED

Gourmet kicks, Boneyards, skate shoe review, and more.

48 Live Stock
52 Platinum Club

40 Grooming

FEATURES

82 COVER: GRACE PARK
After four seasons of bringing sexy back to the future, the *Battlestar Galactica* actress is blowing up like you thought she would, leaving a trail of fanboys in her wake. But is she ready for the limelight? *By Tim Leong*

90 FASHION: NAS
Nas in red pants? Yes, sir! Queensbridge's finest goes from Nasty to Nas to Roy G. Biv with the illest colors for summer.

DEPARTMENTS

10 M.E. AGAINST THE WORLD
Grace and our founder face off.
96 LIKE MY STYLE
Style Breakdown: Trey Songz.

ON THE FLIPSIDE

James McAvoy and Common, Meagan Good, a hands-on guide to amateur massages, the Trifey Ethicist, and more.

ON THE COVER

Grace Park is photographed exclusively for Complex by Miko Lim. Top by Ksubi; lingerie by Calvin Klein. This page: Top by Celine; bra by Intimissimi; shoes by Theory.

HOOKED UP

Summertime beckons, so get your closet correct.

60 Shirts+Shorts
62 T-shirts
66 Watches+Shades
70 Jeans
77 Tennis
78 Street Detail

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Pay Only on the days You Use it
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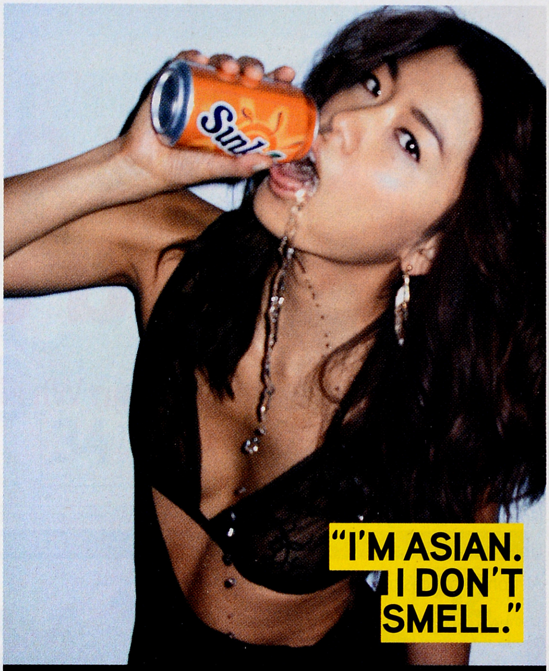
M.E. AGAINST THE WORLD

Complex founder Marc Eckō and Grace Park face off in a five-question showdown.

"WHAT'S DEODORANT?"
HUGH M HEFNER


"I'M ASIAN. I DON'T SMELL."

Marc Eckō vs. Grace Park

IF YOU WERE STARTING A SECRET SOCIETY, WHO WOULD BE IN IT AND WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

I would have a secret society of thousands of the world's hottest women. **I WOULD CONVINCE THEM ALL THAT I AM THE MESSIAH,** and that between my legs lies the gateway to their salvation.

I'd take down the U.S. pharmaceutical industry, and the FDA, and invite Spitzer back. He's out of a job, right? And I'd call Hillary. And Andrew Weil as well. And Oprah! (For our cover story with James McAvoy and Common, the secret assassins from *Wanted*, go to **PAGE 52, flip**.)

WHAT ARE THE DIRTY DETAILS OF YOUR IDEAL RUBDOWN?

My ideal rubdown would be the elusive six-handed massage by the Swedish Bikini Team—topped off with a happy ending by Kim Kardashian.

That's kind of a loaded question, man. **OK...FULL-BODY MASSAGE, WITH OIL, BY SOMEONE I KNOW, PREFERABLY.** (To learn massage, turn to **PAGE 36, flip**.)

WHAT'S THE BEST WAY TO MAKE SURE YOU GET LAID AT A WEDDING?

Nine times out of ten, **I GO FOR THE BEST LOOKING, DIVORCED MILF.** They're easy to pick out, and are almost always ripped, ripe, and ready. (Turn to **PAGE 34, flip**, for Complex wedding advice.)

Get loaded, with them. The line that worked on me was "Hi. What's your name?" I was like, Wow, no one's ever said that to me before. I married him.

WHAT'S THE LONGEST YOU'VE GONE WITHOUT WEARING DEODORANT?

What's deodorant?

Um, since sixth grade. **I DON'T WEAR DEODORANT.** I'm Asian. I don't smell. Unless I don't shower. Is that a hint? Does everybody in the world wear deodorant? (Check out **PAGE 40** for Olivia Munn's deodorant ratings.)

WHAT WAS THE BEST SUMMER BBQ YOU'VE BEEN TO?

One of my best friends drove a midget motorcycle off the diving board into my pool. **WITHIN TWO MINUTES, EVERYONE WAS IN THE POOL FULLY DRESSED—THEN TOOK THEIR CLOTHES OFF.** I don't think the grill ever got turned on.

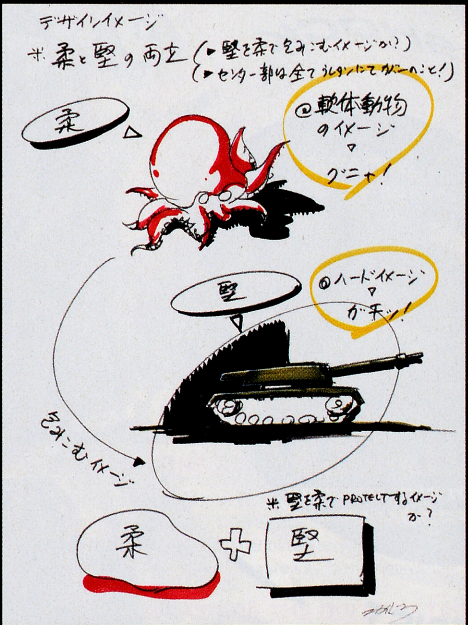
My friend had an inflatable party-barge at his chalet, but it was tied to the dock. I was like, "What's fun about this?" Once everyone got drunk enough, we untied the raft. (For Ilan Hall's can't-miss BBQ recipe, see **PAGE 36**.)

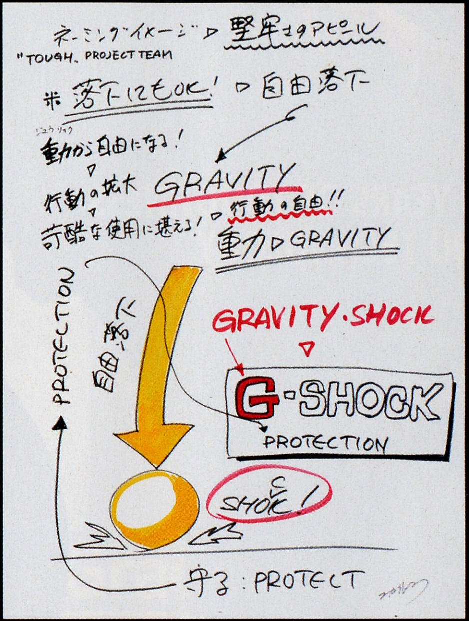
(PHOTOS) ISTOCK PHOTO

G-SHOCK
25 YEARS OF TOUGHNESS
AND TECHNOLOGY
G-SHOCK
FULL AUTO EL LIGHT
CASIO
DIVER'S 200M
ADJUST
MODE
SAT
7:15
MULTI SITE MEMORY
◄FROGMAN►
FROGMAN
SHOCK RESIST
LIGHT
200M
LOG DATA
DIVER'S 200M
TOUGH SOLAR

HISTORY OF THE G-SHOCK

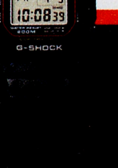
With the launch of its first watch in November 1974, Casio entered the wristwatch market at a time when the watch industry had just discovered digital technology. Armed with cutting-edge electronic technology developed for pocket calculators, Casio entered this field confident that it could develop timepieces that would push watch technology forward.


デザインイメージ
※柔と堅の両立（▷堅を柔で包みこむイメージか？）
（▷センター部は全てウレタンにてカバーのこと！）
柔 ▷
◎軟体動物
のイメージ
▽
グニャ！
堅
◎ハードイメージ
▽
ガチッ！
包みこむイメージ
※堅を柔でPROTECTするイメージ
か？
柔 ＋ 堅


ネーミングイメージ ▷ 堅牢さのアピール
"TOUGH" PROJECT TEAM
※落下にもOK！ ▷ 自由落下
ジュウリョク
重力から自由になる！
▽
行動の拡大 GRAVITY
▽
苛酷な使用に堪える！ ▷ 行動の自由!!
重力 ▷ GRAVITY
PROTECTION
自由落下
GRAVITY·SHOCK
▽
G-SHOCK
PROTECTION
SHOCK！
守る：PROTECT

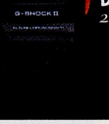
Casio's G-Shock line was created based on a single directive: to build a watch that never breaks. This concept was developed to shatter the notion that a watch is a fragile piece of jewelry that needs to be handled with care. Casio engineers took on the challenge of creating the world's toughest watch.

25TH ANNIVERSARY TIMELINE

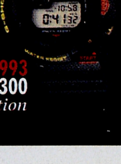


1983
DW-5000
First G-Shock

1989
AW-500
1st Generation Analog



1985
DW-5500
2-pc Molding & Mud-Resistant



1993
DW-6300
Frogman - 1st Generation

PROTECTION
CASIO Lithium
SHOCK RESIST
ALM. ON·OFF
LAP·RESET/REPEAT
ADJUST
MODE
LIGHT
24HR
TH 4-3
10:08 39
WATER RESIST 200M
START·STOP
SIG. ON·OFF
ALARM CHRONOGRAPH
G-SHOCK

The engineers conducted trial after trial under the "triple 10" development concept aimed at 10 years of usage, 10-bar water resistance and 10 meters of dropping shock resistance. These rigorous tests produced more than 200 prototypes over the course of two years, and in 1983 finally delivered the world's strongest watch – the DW-5000C.

Since then, Casio and G-SHOCK have continued their quest to produce an unbreakable watch, and have added electronic technologies such as Tough Solar Power and Atomic Timekeeping. Today, G-SHOCK continues its pursuit of further advancement, considering every possible option to improve the product.

1995
DW-6900
EL Backlight G-Shock

1998
DW-9300
Raysman - 1st Solar G-Shock

2002
GW-500
Solar Atomic G-Shock

2006
GW-9000
1st Multi-Band 5 Solar Atomic G-Shock

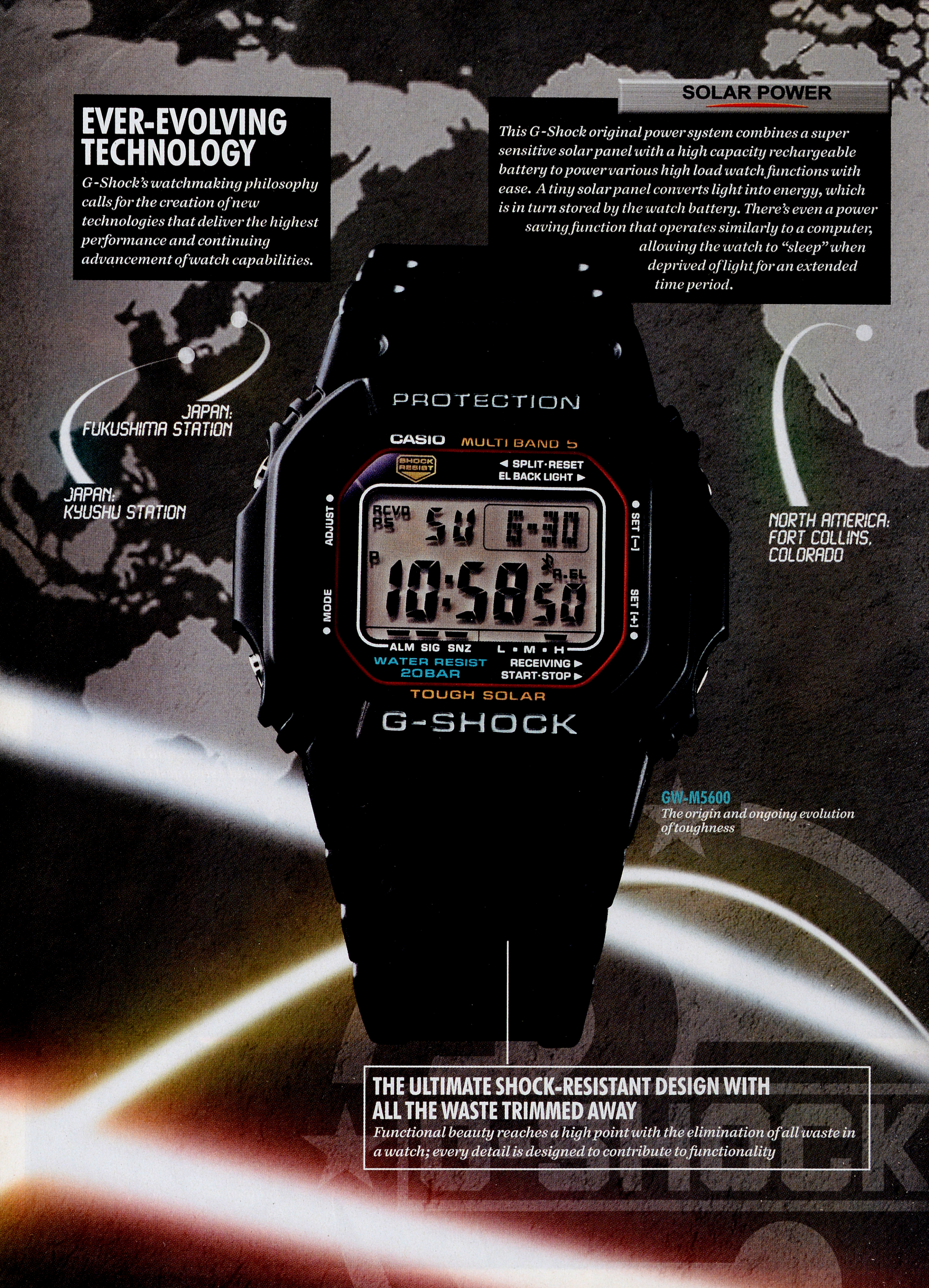
2008
GW-9200
Riseman - Multi-Band 6 Solar Atomic Twin Sensor

EVER-EVOLVING TECHNOLOGY

G-Shock's watchmaking philosophy calls for the creation of new technologies that deliver the highest performance and continuing advancement of watch capabilities.

SOLAR POWER

This G-Shock original power system combines a super sensitive solar panel with a high capacity rechargeable battery to power various high load watch functions with ease. A tiny solar panel converts light into energy, which is in turn stored by the watch battery. There's even a power saving function that operates similarly to a computer, allowing the watch to "sleep" when deprived of light for an extended time period.


JAPAN: FUKUSHIMA STATION
JAPAN: KYUSHU STATION
NORTH AMERICA: FORT COLLINS, COLORADO
PROTECTION
CASIO
MULTI BAND 5
SHOCK RESIST
◄ SPLIT·RESET
EL BACK LIGHT ►
ADJUST
MODE
SET [–]
SET [+]
RCVD
PS
SU
6-30
10:58 50
A.EL
ALM SIG SNZ
L • M • H
WATER RESIST 20BAR
RECEIVING ►
START·STOP ►
TOUGH SOLAR
G-SHOCK

GW-M5600
The origin and ongoing evolution of toughness

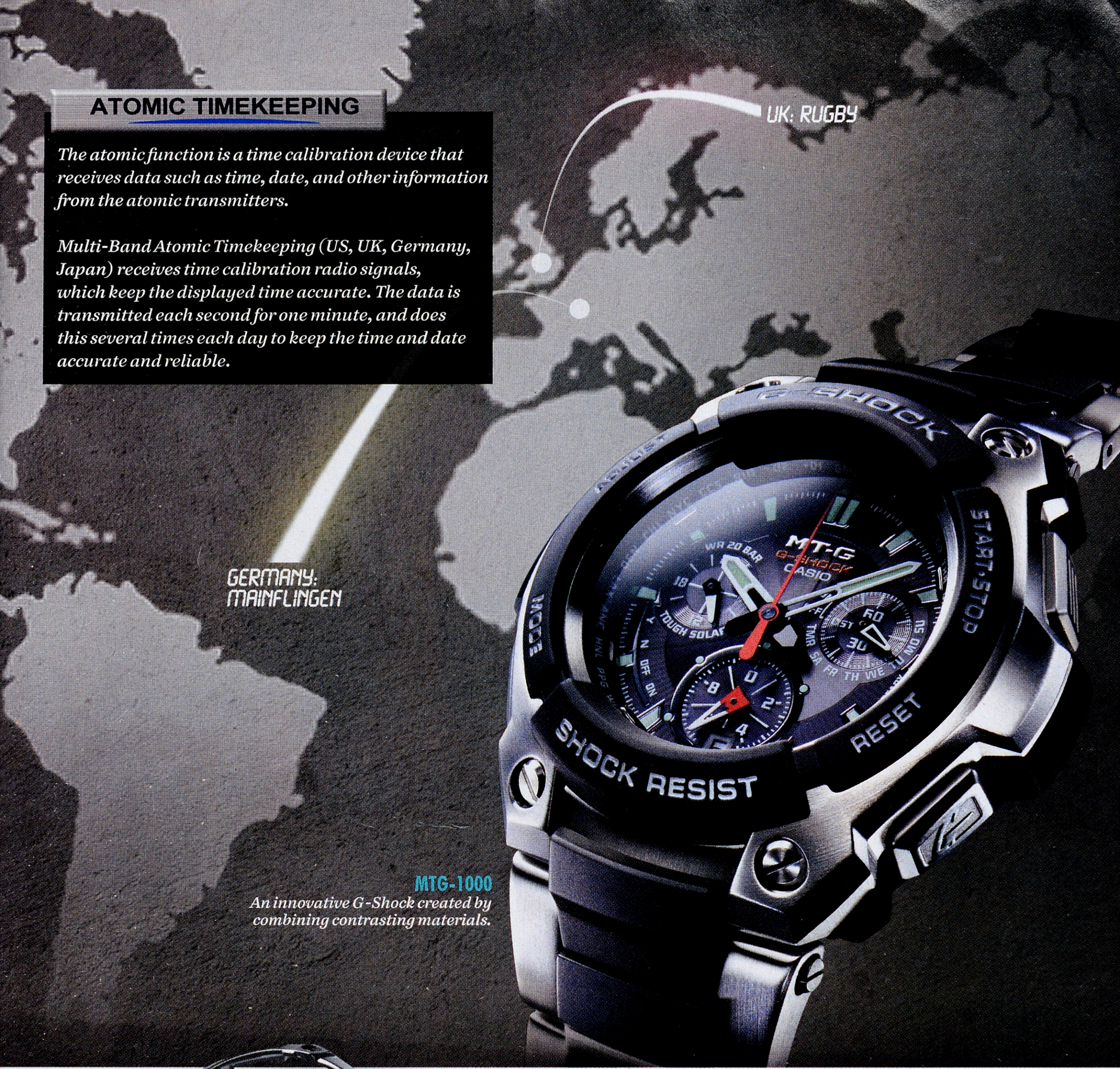
THE ULTIMATE SHOCK-RESISTANT DESIGN WITH ALL THE WASTE TRIMMED AWAY

Functional beauty reaches a high point with the elimination of all waste in a watch; every detail is designed to contribute to functionality

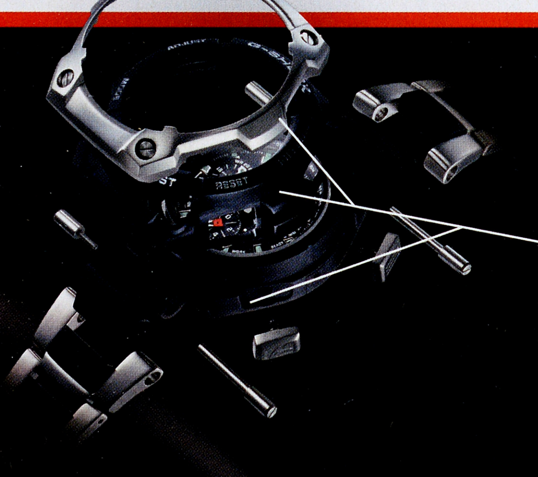
ATOMIC TIMEKEEPING

The atomic function is a time calibration device that receives data such as time, date, and other information from the atomic transmitters.

Multi-Band Atomic Timekeeping (US, UK, Germany, Japan) receives time calibration radio signals, which keep the displayed time accurate. The data is transmitted each second for one minute, and does this several times each day to keep the time and date accurate and reliable.


UK: RUGBY
GERMANY: MAINFLINGEN
G-SHOCK
MT-G
CASIO
TOUGH SOLAR
START·STOP
MODE
ADJUST
RESET
SHOCK RESIST

MTG-1000
An innovative G-Shock created by combining contrasting materials.



CONTRASTING MATERIAL COMBINATION DESIGN

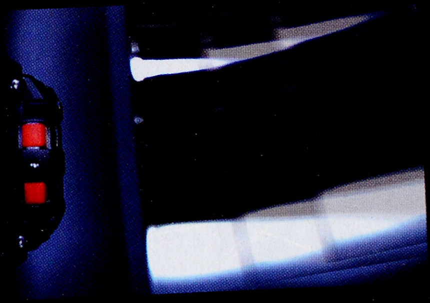
Stainless steel is known for its hardness and resin for its toughness. Taking advantage of these characteristics enabled G-Shock to realize a design in which two completely different materials intertwine beautifully and unite with one another.

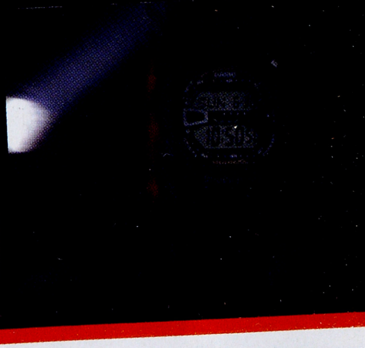
SHOCK RESISTANCE

Born from the breakthrough idea of a hollow structure, the case employs a hollow structure in which the module is "floated" to protect it from shocks. A full urethane bezel provides all-directional enclosure to prevent direct shocks from striking the glass and buttons. Cushioning material provides extra protection for key parts such as the crystal oscillator inside the module. These and other shock-resistant technologies exclusive to G-Shock, are spread generously throughout the body and the module interior to raise toughness to the highest levels.

G-SHOCK
PROTECTION
CASIO
WATER 200M RESIST
LIGHT ON/OFF
START-STOP
LIGHT

THE G-SHOCK TOUGHNESS TESTS





DROP TEST

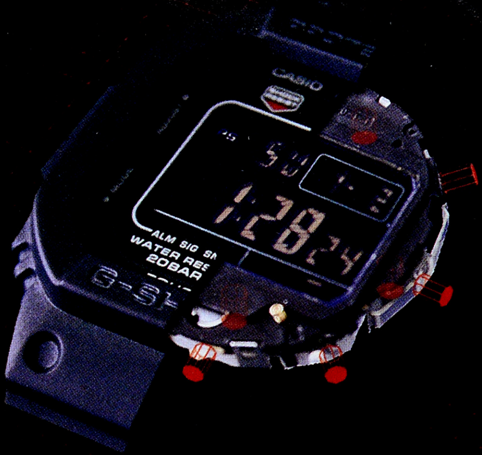
All-directional shock resistance is confirmed by conducting free-fall experiments that subject a G-Shock to extreme shocks far beyond actual usage conditions.

HAMMER TEST

Shock resistance is confirmed by striking the watch at rest with a hammer rotating at a 180-degree trajectory. This is to check that all functions operate normally, even after the watch is subjected to a severe shock.

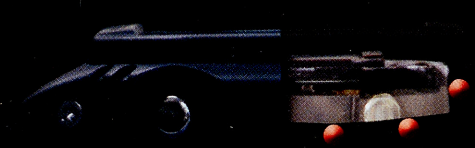
VIBRATION TEST

Vibration resistance is confirmed by fastening a G-Shock to a dedicated vibration device that generates a sine wave of 98 m/s. Applying vibrations for over 20 minutes tests the G-Shock's ability to endure violent oscillations.



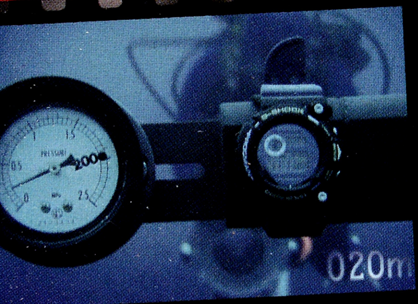
ALL-DIRECTIONAL COVERING

Direct shocks to the buttons and glass surface are prevented by a projecting urethane-resin bezel design. Shock resistance has been ensured by inserting cushioning material between the bezel and case in metal models with lower shock absorption capabilities.



HOLLOW-STRUCTURE CASE

If G-Shock tried to absorb shocks simply by encasing the module with urethane resin or other such materials, the case would grow to immense proportions. G-Shock realizes high shock resistance by supporting the module inside the case at just a few points, thus creating a situation as if the module were floating in air.



WATER RESISTANCE TEST

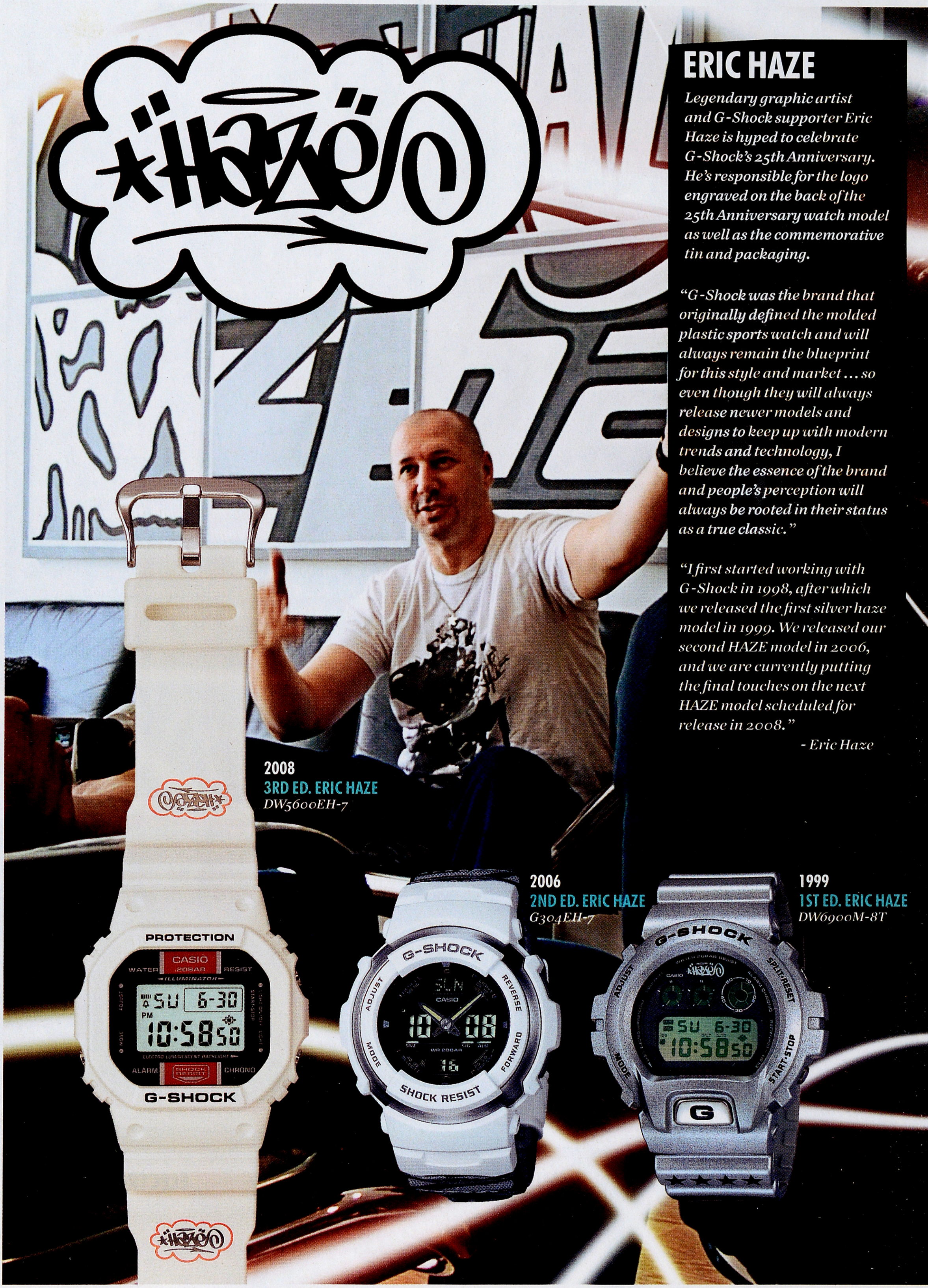
Water and pressure resistance are confirmed by testing a G-Shock at conditions of up to 20-bar for 5 minutes, which is equivalent to the pressure 200 meters below the oceans surface.

LOW TEMPERATURE RESISTANCE

Low temperature resistance confirmed by subjecting a G-Shock to freezing cold temperatures of -4 degrees Fahrenheit to ensure the various functions operate normally in extreme low-temperature environments.

ELECTROSTATIC TEST

Electrostatic resistance is confirmed by actually applying static electricity to a G-Shock. The aim of the test is to ensure that there will be no effect on the electronic parts in environments where static electricity tends to occur.



ERIC HAZE

Legendary graphic artist and G-Shock supporter Eric Haze is hyped to celebrate G-Shock's 25th Anniversary. He's responsible for the logo engraved on the back of the 25th Anniversary watch model as well as the commemorative tin and packaging.

"G-Shock was the brand that originally defined the molded plastic sports watch and will always remain the blueprint for this style and market ... so even though they will always release newer models and designs to keep up with modern trends and technology, I believe the essence of the brand and people's perception will always be rooted in their status as a true classic."

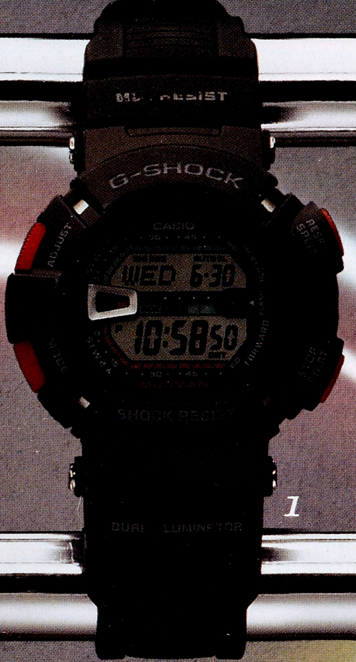
"I first started working with G-Shock in 1998, after which we released the first silver haze model in 1999. We released our second HAZE model in 2006, and we are currently putting the final touches on the next HAZE model scheduled for release in 2008."

- Eric Haze

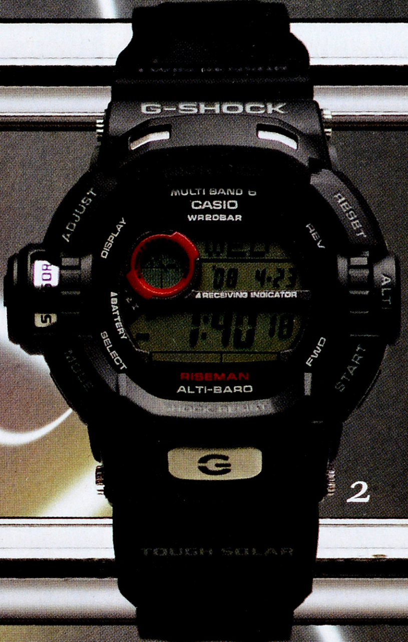
2008
3RD ED. ERIC HAZE
DW5600EH-7

2006
2ND ED. ERIC HAZE
G304EH-7

1999
1ST ED. ERIC HAZE
DW6900M-8T


MULTI RESIST
G-SHOCK
CASIO
WED 6:30
10:58 50
SHOCK RESIST
DURI LUMINATOR

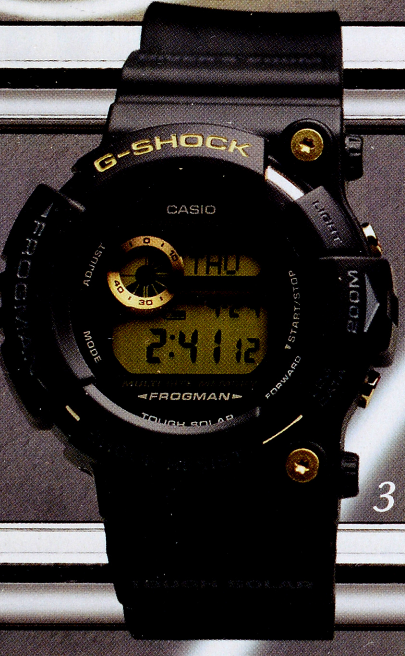
1


G-SHOCK
MULTI BAND 6
CASIO
WR20BAR
ADJUST
DISPLAY
REV
RESET
ALTI
RECEIVING INDICATOR
BATTERY
SELECT
MODE
FWD
START
RISEMAN
ALTI-BARO
TOUGH SOLAR

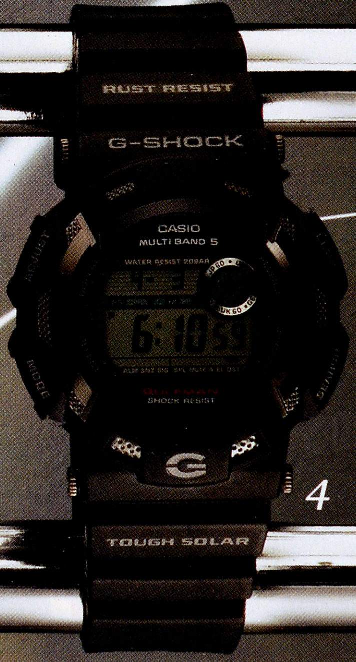
2

MASTER OF G

1. G-9000 "Mudman" - Mud Resistant Dual 1/100 Sec. Stopwatch 2. GW-9200 "Riseman" - Twin Sensor Multi-Band 6 Solar Atomic 3. GW-225 "Frogman" - ISO 200M WR Tough Solar Diver 4. GW-9100 "Gulfman" - Rust Resistant Multi-Band 5 Solar Atomic


G-SHOCK
CASIO
FROGMAN
THU
2:41 12
ADJUST
MODE
LIGHT
START/STOP
FORWARD
200M
TOUGH SOLAR

3


RUST RESIST
G-SHOCK
CASIO
MULTI BAND 5
WATER RESIST 200M
6:10 59
ADJUST
MODE
SHOCK RESIST
TOUGH SOLAR

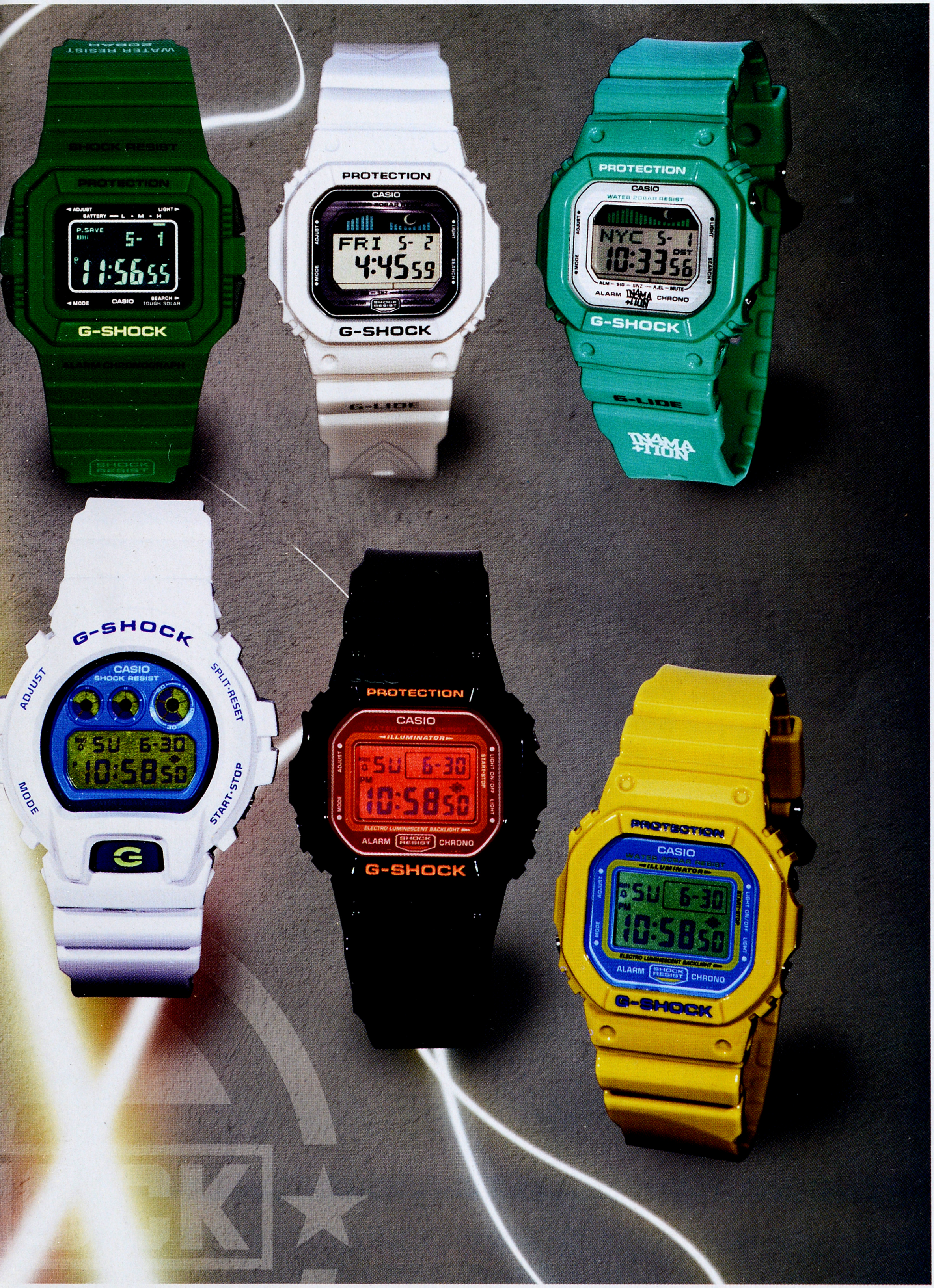
4

G-SHOCK
DOLPHIN & WHALE

G-Shock has supported I.C.E.R.C. (International Cetacean Education and Research Center) since 1993. I.C.E.R.C. is a non-profit organization that aims to foster a true understanding of nature through contact with dolphins and whales. It promotes a wide array of dolphin and whale research and educational activities aimed at making environmental awareness and protection an integral part of our daily lives.

Atomic SOLAR Gulfman (Eco Friendly)

Save Ocean/Dolphin & Whale with BG


WATER RESIST 20BAR
SHOCK RESIST
PROTECTION
ADJUST
BATTERY L M H
LIGHT
P.SAVE
5- 1
11:56 55
MODE
CASIO
SEARCH
TOUGH SOLAR
G-SHOCK
ALARM CHRONOGRAPH
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TOUGH SOLAR
G-SHOCK

www.gshock.com

Addicted

The Product Guide

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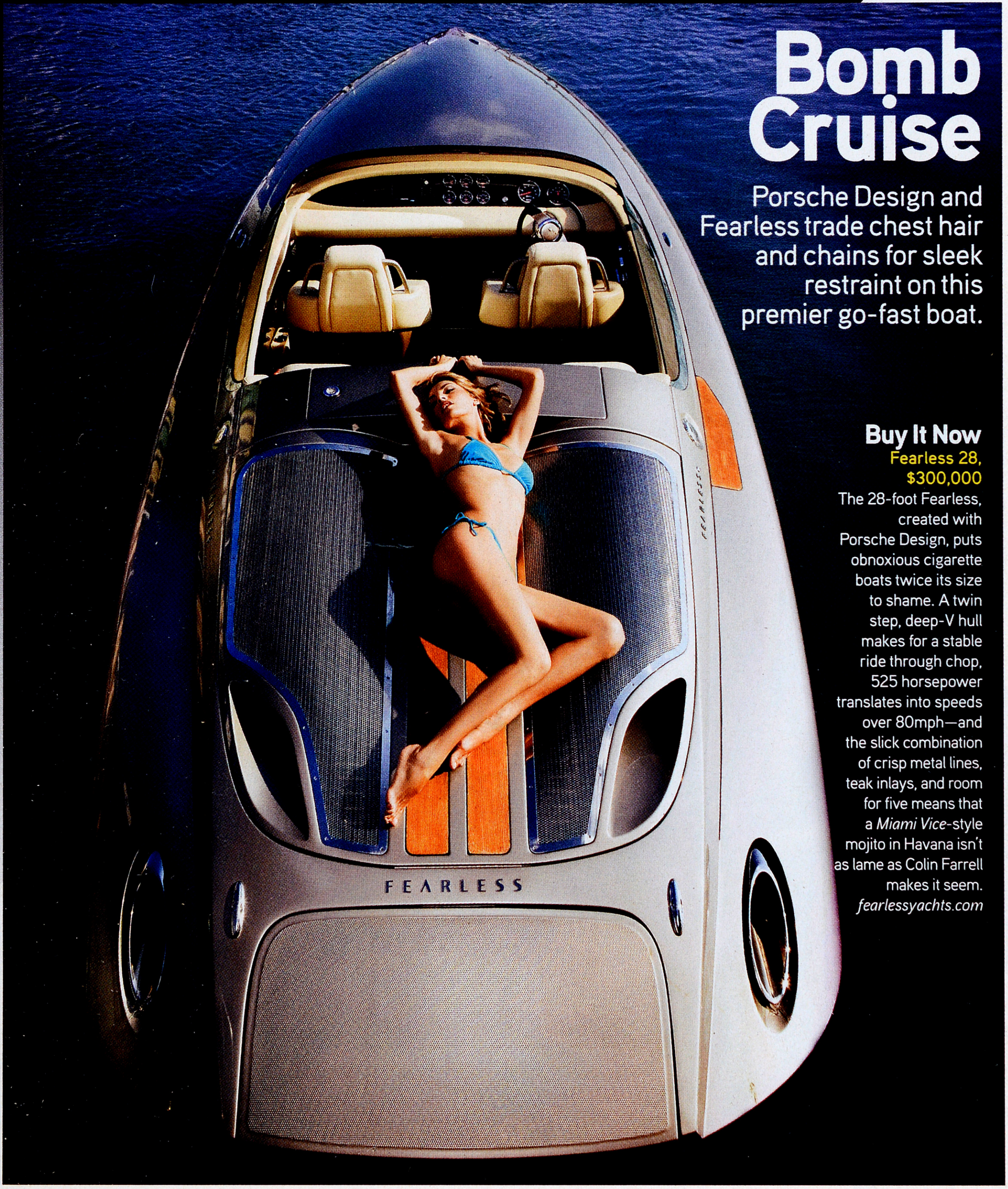


Bomb Cruise

Porsche Design and Fearless trade chest hair and chains for sleek restraint on this premier go-fast boat.

Buy It Now

Fearless 28, $300,000

The 28-foot Fearless, created with Porsche Design, puts obnoxious cigarette boats twice its size to shame. A twin step, deep-V hull makes for a stable ride through chop, 525 horsepower translates into speeds over 80mph—and the slick combination of crisp metal lines, teak inlays, and room for five means that a *Miami Vice*-style mojito in Havana isn't as lame as Colin Farrell makes it seem. *fearlessyachts.com*

(CLOTHING) BATHING SUIT BY APPLE BOTTOMS BY NELLY. (HAIR AND MAKEUP) HILLARY FENTON FOR BLINK MANAGEMENT USING MAKEUP FOREVER COSMETICS.

Photograph by JARED RYDER

THE TOYS OF SUMMER

Fashion takes a back seat this time of year, so let **SUMMER SPORTS TECH** fill your style quota.

1 Trackstar The NYC bike shop that put together the DQM track bike series will be doing its first set of 56cm "Monster" bikes this season. Bike geeks + cool paint + race-ready = real deal. *$850, trackstarnyc.com*

2 Callaway Skip the pro-shop sales pitch and go with the X-20 Tour irons, *$800 (set)*, the FT-i Sqauareway Wood, *$299*, and the Sabertooth Putter, *$169*, all in time for summer. *callawaygolf.com*

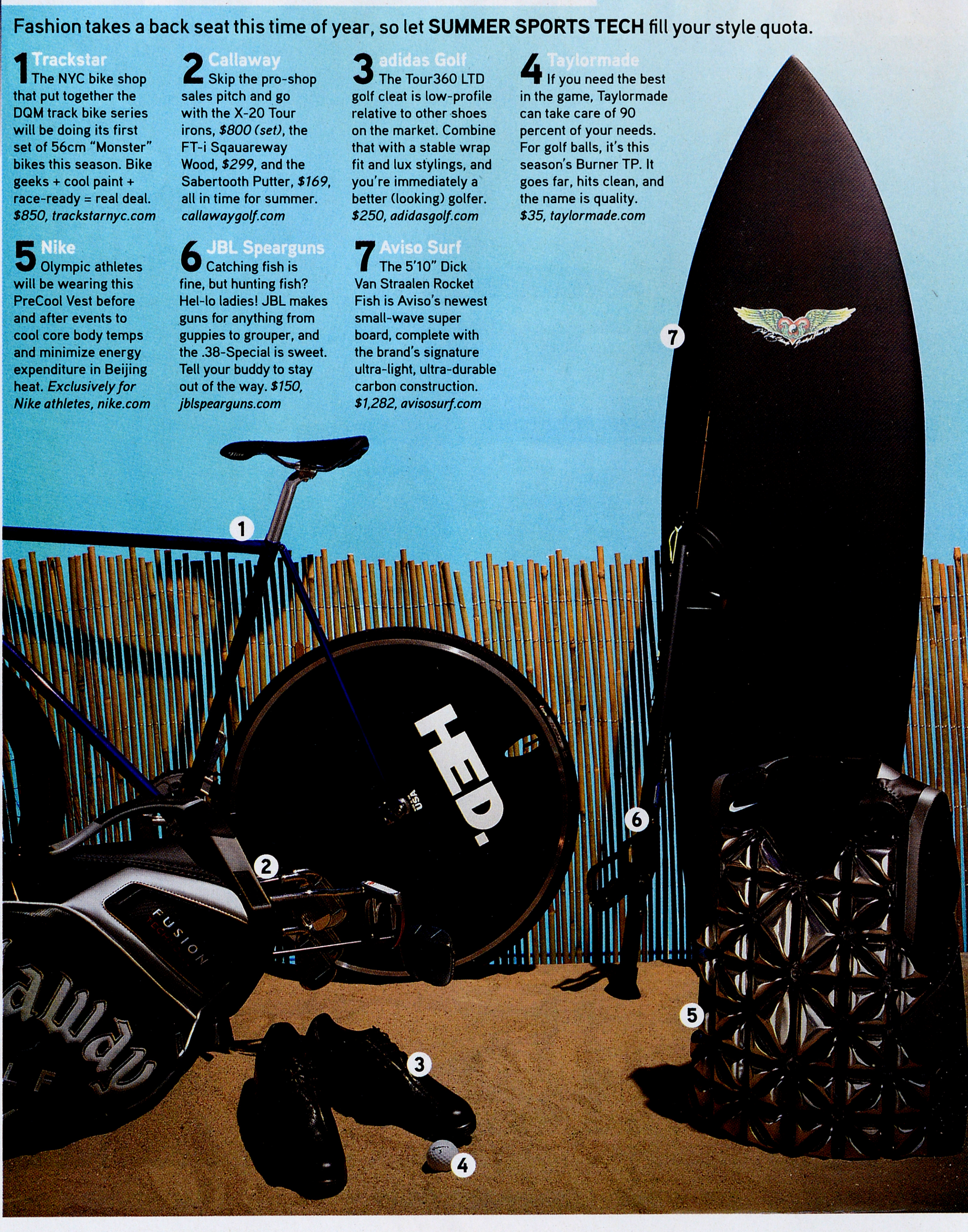
3 adidas Golf The Tour360 LTD golf cleat is low-profile relative to other shoes on the market. Combine that with a stable wrap fit and lux stylings, and you're immediately a better (looking) golfer. *$250, adidasgolf.com*

4 Taylormade If you need the best in the game, Taylormade can take care of 90 percent of your needs. For golf balls, it's this season's Burner TP. It goes far, hits clean, and the name is quality. *$35, taylormade.com*

5 Nike Olympic athletes will be wearing this PreCool Vest before and after events to cool core body temps and minimize energy expenditure in Beijing heat. *Exclusively for Nike athletes, nike.com*

6 JBL Spearguns Catching fish is fine, but hunting fish? Hel-lo ladies! JBL makes guns for anything from guppies to grouper, and the .38-Special is sweet. Tell your buddy to stay out of the way. *$150, jblspearguns.com*

7 Aviso Surf The 5'10" Dick Van Straalen Rocket Fish is Aviso's newest small-wave super board, complete with the brand's signature ultra-light, ultra-durable carbon construction. *$1,282, avisosurf.com*



Photograph by BRAD BRIDGERS

Photographed by Terry Richardson

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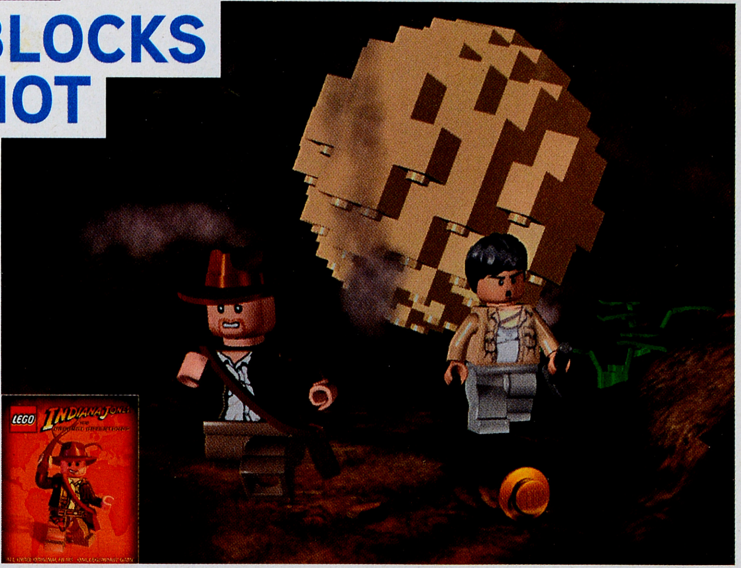
THE BLOCKS ARE HOT

Indiana Jones whips the bad guys in LEGO form. It's brick out, son!



LEGO INDIANA JONES: THE ORIGINAL ADVENTURES

(LucasArts–all consoles)

Genre: Adorable action

Something Like: *LEGO Star Wars* meets *Pitfall*

Rundown: Following in the droid-steps of *LEGO Star Wars*, this faithfully recreates Indy's first three movies with small plastic blocks and large doses of silliness. Though it's simple and kid-friendly (i.e., no Nazis), it's an addictive action game that'll keep you sated until *LEGO Batman* drops in the fall.

Gameplay ●●●●◐
Graphics ●●●●○
Multiplayer ●●●●◐

Wii
SPEED RACER

SPEED RACER

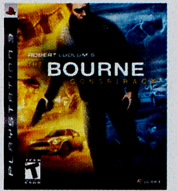
(Warner Bros. Interactive–Wii, DS, PS2 [in fall])

Genre: Arcade racing

Something Like: *Pole Position* meets *Hot Wheels*

Rundown: Based on the G-rated movie, this one has you driving Speed's Mach 6, Racer X's Shooting Star, and Trixie's new T180 on loopy tracks with spinning attacks, crazy jumps, and a pep-talking monkey. Kids' stuff, sure—but fun.

Gameplay ●●●○○
Graphics ●●●○○
Multiplayer ●●●○○



THE BOURNE CONSPIRACY

(Ubisoft–360, PS3, PC)

Genre: Third-person action

Something Like: *Splinter Cell* if Sam Fisher was iller

Rundown: A prequel to the film trilogy that leans on the Bourne books back when superspy Jason Bourne actually knew he was a superspy. Think James Bond, minus the fluff.

Gameplay ●●●◐○
Graphics ●●●◐○
Multiplayer N/A

SOULCALIBUR IV

SOULCALIBUR IV

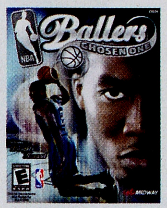
(Namco Bandai–360, PS3)

Genre: 3-D fighting

Something Like: *D.O.A.* with swords (and more clothes)

Rundown: Even with the most pretentious announcer in the biz, this is still the best brawler around. Plus the tight controls make it easy to pull off killer moves. New this year is a playable Yoda (360 only) and Darth Vader (PS3 only), plus sweet online modes.

Gameplay ●●●●◐
Graphics ●●●●◐
Multiplayer ●●●●◐



NBA BALLERS: CHOSEN ONE

(Midway–360, PS3)

Genre: Arcade hoops

Something Like: The original *Ballers* in next-gen

Rundown: All of the 65 pros here—yup, even Yao—can perform Rucker tricks. This leads to intense one-on-ones with acrobatics that sometimes call for *Shenmue*-style button combos. The cut-aways are lame, but the game delivers.

Gameplay ●●●●○
Graphics ●●●◐○
Multiplayer ●●●●◐

GAME RECOGNIZE GAME

GOLD-MEDAL SWIMMER AMANDA BEARD EXPOSES ALL.

Current fave: *JAWS Unleashed* on PS2. I'm a swimmer, so I enjoy water games.

Fave genre: Sporty games. When I had the original Nintendo, I did a lot of the Power Pad.

First game memory: *Donkey Kong* on the old Apple IIe. I spent hours perfecting that.

First game beat: I was good at *World Class Track Meet* with the Power Pad.

Fave coin-op: Games where you sit in a car, on a motorcycle, or ride skis. I need a lot of stimuli around me, I'm more of an athletic gamer. [*Laughs.*]

TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA
TURTLES
ULTRA

Best game ever: *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* for Nintendo.

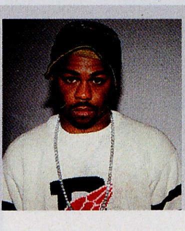
Hardest game: My boyfriend's really into *SOCOM*, but I suck.

I can't lose in...: *Beijing 2008*, I hope! If I lose, I'll challenge the person to a real pool race.

Beard is promoting Beijing 2008 *(Sega-360, PS3, PC) while training for the real Beijing Olympics.*

Game Theory

BALLERS' MUSIC MAN JUST BLAZE HAS NO PLANS TO STOP SCORING.



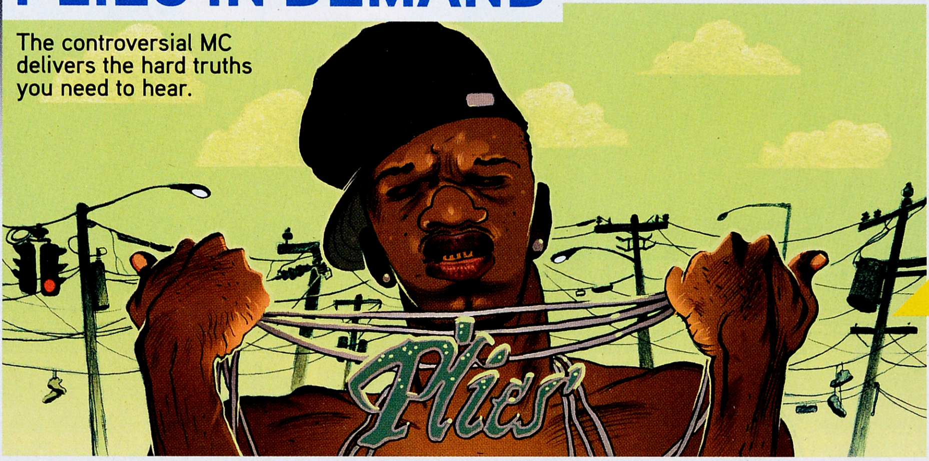
MOST MAKERS OF SPORTS GAMES license records from "hip" artists, sprinkle them throughout the title, and call it a day. Midway took the process a step further with *NBA Ballers: Chosen One*, enlisting Just Blaze to compose an entire musical score. The producer previously contributed one-off tracks to EA Sports but his work for *Ballers* was a different animal. "The process was like scoring a movie," says Blaze, who made over 30 original beats for the game. "The workload was a lot heavier because you had to pay attention to what was going on in the game all the time." Beats switch with in-game momentum swings, sometimes resulting in songs layering over each other. Moving forward, Just Blaze wants to follow RZA into film-scoring. Could Hollywood be his new side hustle? "The way the music industry is going," he says, "I think *rap* could be the side hustle."

(TEXT) PAUL SEMEL; (PHOTOS) BEARD: KEVORK DJANSEZIAN/AP PHOTO; JUST BLAZE: RAY TAMARRA/GETTY IMAGES

LE
JEAN
DE

PLIES IN DEMAND

The controversial MC delivers the hard truths you need to hear.



PLIES Definition of Real *(Slip-N-Slide/Atlantic)*

The follow-up to the outspoken Floridian's gold debut refuses to leave the struggling blue-collar hustlers behind. Backed by J.R. Rotem's monster beats, guests like Trey Songz and Ne-Yo soften the blow for Plies's harsh reality raps.

Key Songs: "Somebody Loves You," "Tired of Being Broke," "Who Hotter Than Me"

Beats ●●●◐○ **Rhymes** ●●●●○ **(Shelf) Life** ●●●●◐

YELLE
Pop-Up
(Caroline/Astralwerks)

You may not *comprende*, but the electronica singer's lyrics are X-rated. French chicks know how to use the tongue.

Key Songs: "A Cause des Garçons," "Ce jeu"

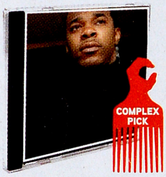
Beats ●●●●◐
Rhymes ●●◐○○
(Shelf) Life ●●●○○

LIL MAMA
VYP: Voice of the Young People
(Jive)

NY rap hasn't been this glossy since the shiny suit era. But underneath the glitter, Ma is as gritty as her upbringing.

Key Songs: "Shawty Get Loose," "Swim"

Beats ●●●○○
Rhymes ●●●○○
(Shelf) Life ●●●●○



BUSTA RHYMES
I'm Blessed
(Aftermath/Interscope)

Bussa-Bus's mid-life crisis helps him conjure up his more youthful side, circa "Gimme Some More."

Key Songs: "Right Now," "Decisions," "Don't Touch Me"

Beats ●●●●○
Rhymes ●●●◐○
(Shelf) Life ●●●●◐

GONZALES
Soft Power
(Universal)

Feist's pianist/producer goes classical, a cappella, disco, and funk. That's 1, 2, 3, 4 different genres!

Key Songs: "Modalisa," "Theme From In-Between"

Beats ●●●○○
Rhymes ●●●○○
(Shelf) Life ●●◐○○

MISSY ELLIOTT
FANomenal
(Goldmind/Atlantic)

V.A.'s experimental songstress was the first to ride the wave of Timbo and Danja's new-wave pop. Still supa dupa fly.

Key Songs: "Best Best," "Love," "Hip-Hop Don't Die"

Beats ●●●●◐
Rhymes ●●●○○
(Shelf) Life ●●●●○

MYTUNES

EXPERIMENTAL PRODUCER GEOFF BARROW OF PORTISHEAD LISTS HIS INSPIRATION FOR *THIRD*, THE BAND'S LONG-AWAITED RETURN.

Name	Artist	Year
Oscillations	Silver Apples	1968
"This psychedelic band made music out of test oscillators—equipment that sends out tone and frequency."		
Marley Marl Scratch	Marley Marl feat. MC Shan	1985
Champion Sound	Jaylib	2003
"Madlib is one of the only people pushing hip-hop forward. I say this as a nerdy boy from Bristol."		
Grimm & Bear It	Sunn O)))	1999
Flight of the Eagle	Om	2006
Candy Says	Velvet Underground	1969
2 Deep	Gang Starr	1992
"I had a 12" of it on a tour in 1997. I was driving everyone mad cutting it up. I would have killed to find that loop."		

LINER NOTES

PLIES TALKS ABOUT MAKING STATEMENTS AND RUFFLING FEATHERS.

"It was so important not to repeat what I said on *The Real Testament*. It's so weird to me to see what people choose to talk about, how many cars you got—damn, you're really straight! For the people that's hurting, is that a slap in the face? People really respect the honesty in my music—honesty ruffles feathers. I got backlash from '100 Years,' but some of that was positive. I said 'nigga' twice as many times as I said 'cracka.' We call black police officers 'crackas' in Fort Myers [FL]. Some things are just numb to the ears." FOR MORE WORDS FROM PLIES, GO TO COMPLEX.COM.

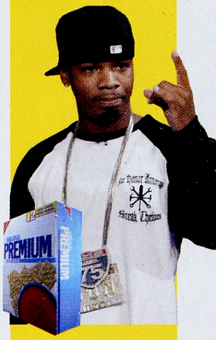


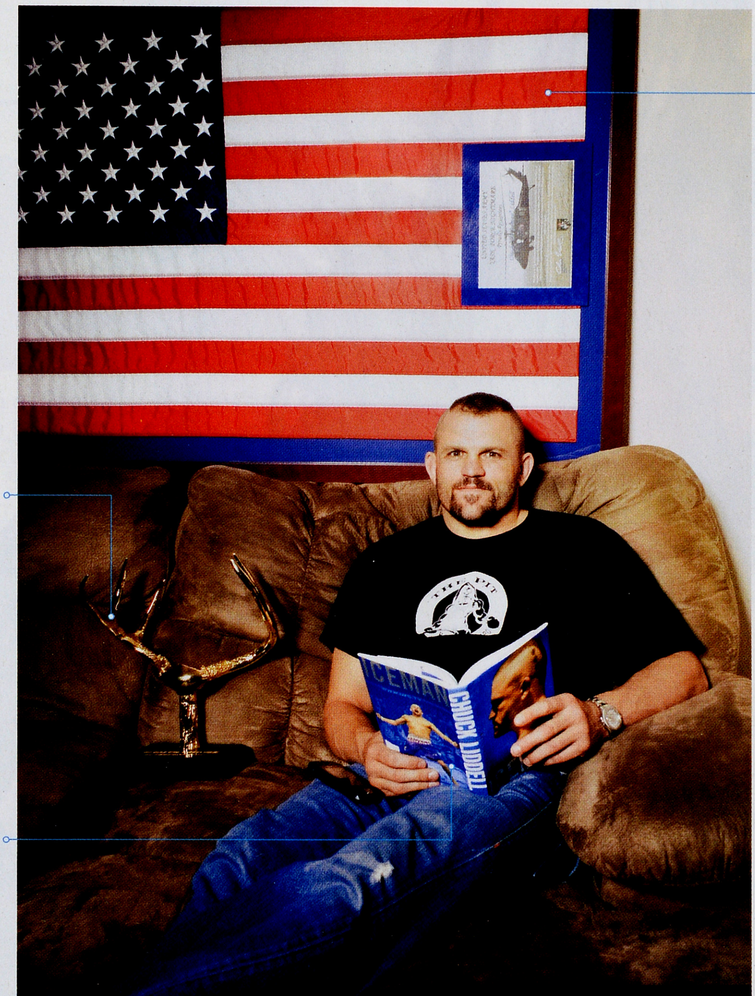
Illustration by THOMAS HERPICH

Stüssy

FIVE FOR FIGHTING

Block-rocking **UFC FIGHTER CHUCK LIDDELL** hits Complex columnist **TRAVIS BARKER** in the head with five prized possessions suitable for a certified badass. Don't flinch.

> "I love watching Chuck clobber people—plus he's got a reputation for partying. I'm downright jealous of his mobile stripper pole."



AMERICAN FLAG
"We do a lot of stuff with the military, **SUPPORTING THE TROOPS**. They give me a lot of little things, coins and stuff, but this flag is the sickest thing I've been sent. It was a gift from a guy who has flown over Iraq, and it's signed by the pilot. I've never been over there. A couple times when UFC has done the tours, they were right before my fights, so I couldn't leave, but I'm open for it. It helps boost morale, they say. It's good, 'cause it's rough over there."

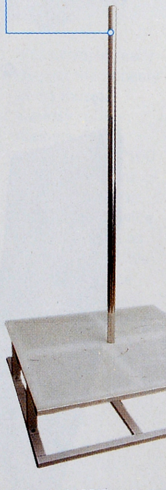
STRIPPER POLE
"It's mobile, so we can move it outside for parties in the summer. **IT'S STURDY ENOUGH** that it doesn't fall over when a girl gets crazy at the top. I mean, I could get up there. It's also a good skateboard grind for my kids." *For video of Travis interviewing Chuck, go to COMPLEX.COM.*

2007 SPIKE TV GUYS' CHOICE "MOST DANGEROUS MAN" AWARD
"It's the funniest award I've gotten. It was me against Dog the Bounty Hunter. If I'd lost that, my friends would've killed me. I would've **NEVER LIVED IT DOWN**. Plus, there's some antlers on the plaque."

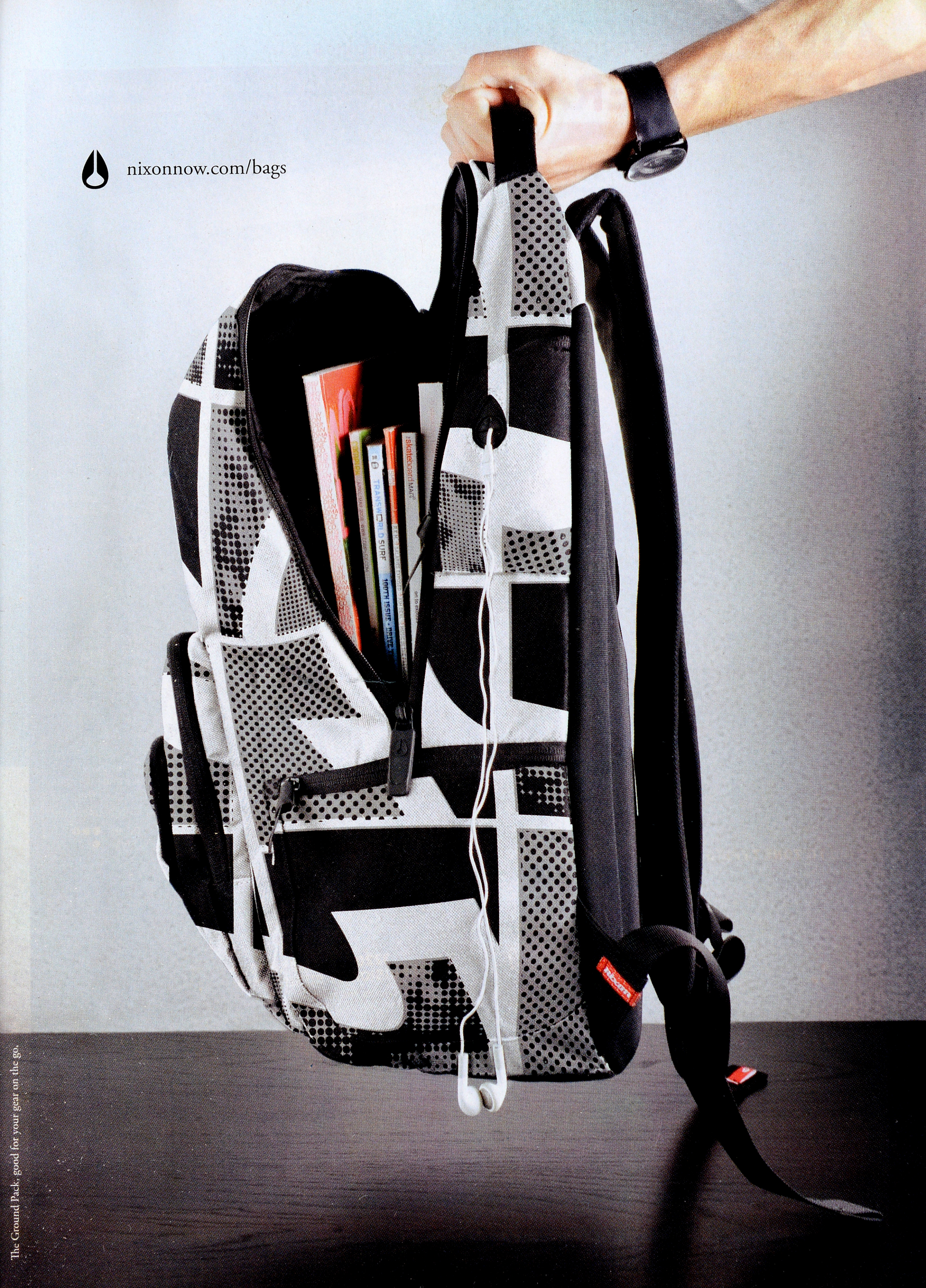
***ICEMAN: MY FIGHTING LIFE,* BY CHUCK LIDDELL & CHAD MILLMAN**
"Writing an autobiography was one of those things that **I WAS A LITTLE HESITANT** to do, but I got talked into it and now I'm happy I did. I think it says some good things. Chad helped me out writing it; he'd interview me and write something, then come back to me, and I'd say, 'No, that doesn't sound like me. Change this, change that.' It was a lot of talking on the phone, but he did a great job."

> "THE STRIPPER POLE IS ALSO A GOOD SKATE GRIND FOR MY KIDS."

FERRARI F430 SPIDER
"I don't know the horsepower and all that. I just know **IT'S DAMN FAST**. I drive it almost every day, but when we go to Vegas for my fights, we take my Porsche and one of my buddies drives."



Photographs by GABRIELA HASBUN


nixonnow.com/bags
TRANSWORLD SURF
skateboard MAG
The Ground Pack, good for your gear on the go.

DEEP COVERAGE

Hair dryers and bathtubs don't mix, but new **WATER-RESISTANT DEVICES** make the beach entertaining.

Panasonic
SunBriteTV
AQUAPAC

PANASONIC SDR-SW20

This flash-memory camcorder is supercompact and is designed so you can shoot video from five feet under—not amazing, but more than enough to document your hot tub exploits. Speaking of which: Change the water. *$390, amazon.com*

Depth ●●○○○
Style ●●●○○

ETERNA KONTIKI DIVER WATCH

Ever been 3,000 feet under a North Sea oil rig and lost track of your time-and-a-half because your watch broke? This Swiss brand has your back with over 150 years of experience. *$9,200,eterna.ch*

Depth ●●●●●
Style ●●●●◐

OLYMPUS STYLUS 1030 SW

This 10.1 MP camera is part tank, part submarine. With a depth rating of 33 feet and crush resistance up to 220 lbs., not only can you bring it in the pool, but you can bounce it off the balcony to get it there. *$400, olympusamerica.com*

Depth ●●●○○
Style ●●●◐○

AQUAPAC WATERPROOF PHONE/GPS CASE

Having a colostomy bag strapped to your Speedo is way better than a soggy iPhone, so suck it up. Drop one of these down to 15 feet—or make and take calls through the case from the beach. *$25, aquapac.net*

Depth ●●●○○
Style ●○○○○

CASIO G'ZONE TYPE-S PHONE

This phone may not have the sleek lines you're used to, but if your weekends find you at the beach in Beirut, you'll be all set. Dust, water, and brute force can't faze it—but note that the GPS won't be able to save you if you've gone off the grid. *$150 (with contract), casiogzone.com*

Depth ●○○○○
Style ●●○○○

3220HD WATERPROOF TELEVISION BY SUNBRITETV

Global warming got you down? SunBriteTV's weather-proof, waterproof 32" HD flat screen is going to be the joint while you wait out the apocalypse. Forty days and 40 nights ain't shit when you've got Wii baseball! $3,295, *sunbritetv.com*

Depth ●○○○○
Style ●●●◐○

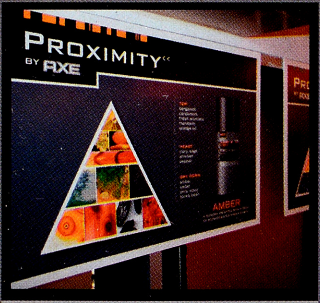
Photograph by BRAD BRIDGERS

PROXIMITY<<

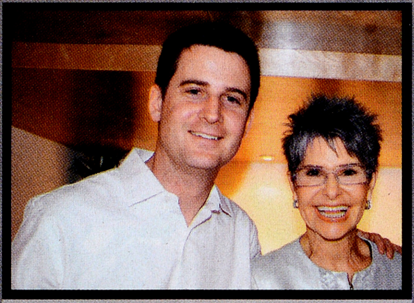
BY AXE

On May 1, 2008, Complex celebrated the exclusive unveiling of new **Proximity** body fragrances from **AXE** with an invite-only event at the Complex Platinum Club. More than 400 people crowded into the high-energy event to be the first to test the three fresh new Proximity fragrances. DJ Treats kept the party pulsing and event goers sipped on signature **Proximity** cocktails created for the event from Hendrick's and Heineken.

Designed by some of the world's most prestigious fragrance experts, **Proximity** offers noticeably lighter scents for guys who appreciate the seductive power of understatement.



AXE Proximity signs/displays



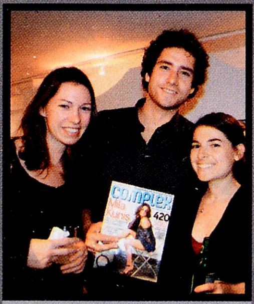
Alex Abraham, Edelman and special guest--Ann Gottlieb

Proximity and Munny display cases

Proximity display in media reception area

Media attendee testing out Proximity with Ann Gottlieb

Guest attendees



Guests in media area

Susannah Jabbour, The Morning Show with Mike and Juliet, Shannon Chiger, Edelman and Molly Lyons, FOX News Channel

Guests enjoying Heineken

Heineken HENDRICK'S GIN milagro REYKA VODKA

Hosted by COMPLEX

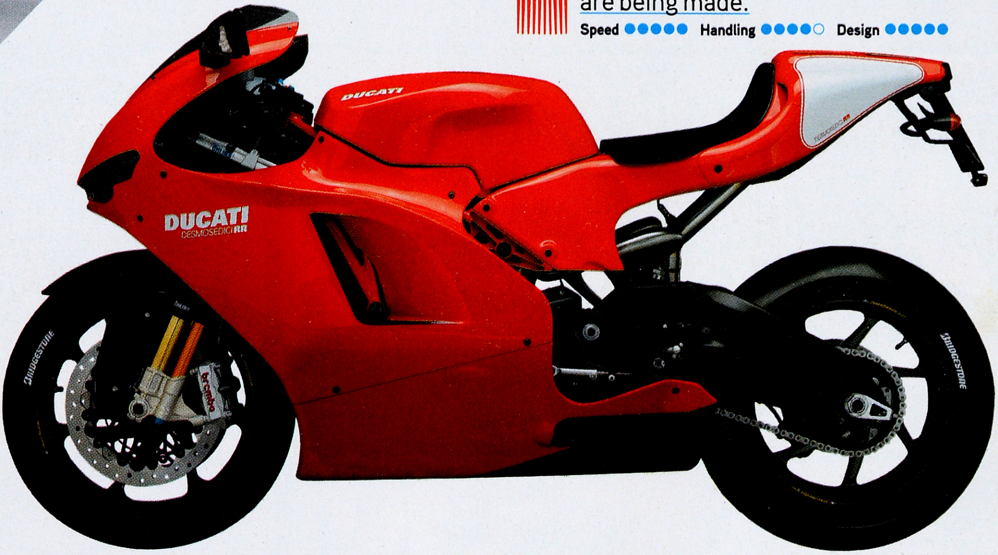
CYCLE KILLERS

Summertime is the season to rule the road on two wheels. Check out **THE BEST 2008 MOTORCYCLES** and start the vicious cycle again.

COMPLEX PICK

Ducati Desmosedici RR *$75,000*
A stunning blend of engineering and art, Ducati's 200hp, carbon-clad street replica of Casey Stoner's MotoGP-winning rig ain't for beginners... which is why only 1,500 units are being made.

Speed ●●●●● **Handling** ●●●●○ **Design** ●●●●●



+ FOR PRODUCT INFO GO TO COMPLEX.COM/WHERETOBUY

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HARLEY-DAVIDSON VRSCDX NIGHT ROD® SPECIAL *$16,695*

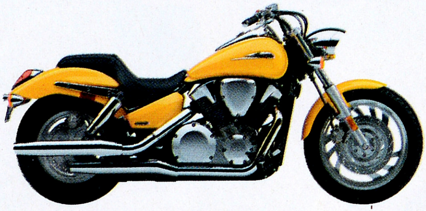
Redefined for 2008, Harley's hybrid race-cruiser is back in black, looking more imperial than ever. In addition to a meaner mug, the Night Rod has upgraded to a 1250cc, 125hp engine and a race-inspired slipper clutch—so you may want to opt for the new ABS package.

Speed ●●●◐○
Handling ●●●●◐
Design ●●●●○

HONDA VTX1300C *$9,599*

The VTX line builds on its short-but-solid heritage of performance and reliability with the new 1300C. Clean, classic styling will look just as good 10 years from now—and considering it's a Honda, it'll still be running too.

Speed ●●●○○
Handling ●●●◐○
Design ●●●●○



HOT CONCEPT

SUZUKI CROSSCAGE CONCEPT

Rather than make a quicker GSXR, Suzuki went fast and green with their hydrogen-powered Crosscage concept bike. With its lightweight crosscage frame, fuel cell technology, and innovative single-sided suspension system, we'd take this over a Prius any day.

Speed ●●●●○
Handling ●●●●○
Design ●●●●●

LICENSE TO CHILL

THREE VACATIONS FOR AUTO ENTHUSIASTS.

Land Rover Experience Quebec

Learn to navigate the Laurentian Mountains, then unwind at the historic Fairmont Le Château Montebello. *$800 per day (airfare/travel not included), landrover experience.com*

Luxury ●●●●●
Adventure ●●●●●
Skill Needed ●●○○○

World Class Driving

Whip up to five of the latest supercars, without hip-hop police clocking you. *$1,495 + $300 for passenger, worldclassdriving.com*

Luxury ●●●○○
Adventure ●●○○○
Skill Needed ●●●○○

BMW M School

Get your wheel-game proper by pushing an M-series Bimmer at BMW's Performance Driving School in South Carolina. *$3,295 (airfare/travel not included), bmwusa.com*

Luxury ●●●○○
Adventure ●●●●○
Skill Needed ●●●●○

BMW 2008
128i Coupe
135i Coupe
From $29,375*

bmwusa.com
1-800-334-4BMW

The Ultimate Driving Machine®

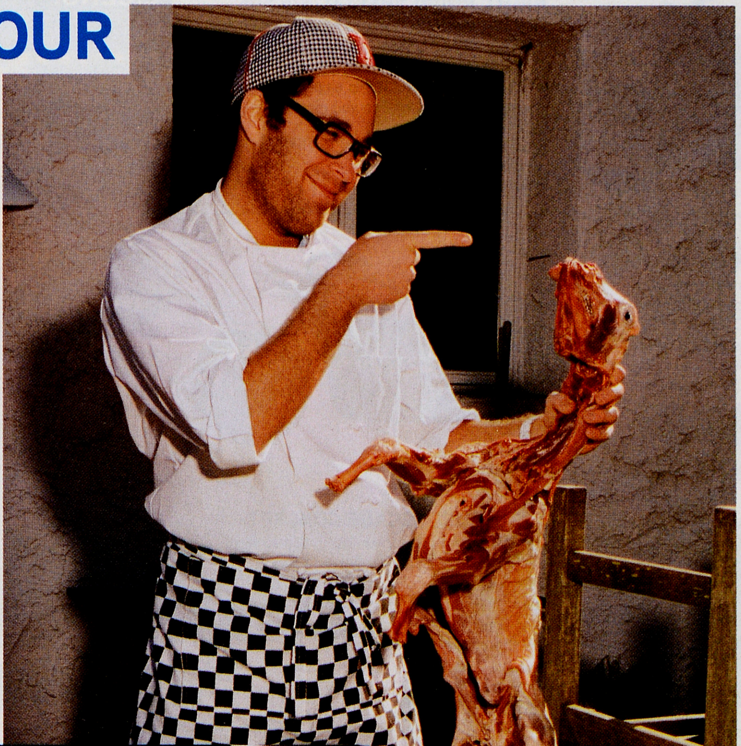
We didn't water down its soul either.

As the spiritual successor to the 2002 sports sedan, the new BMW 1 Series is thoroughly BMW. The carved, muscular body, sport suspension and optional Formula 1-inspired paddle shifters gives a nod to its extraordinary street performance capabilities. While innovations like a 300-hp, 3.0-liter twin-turbo engine means it has enough brute strength to tame the road. And just so performance doesn't outweigh practicality, BMW's Dynamic Traction Control® helps keep you on the road when conditions are anything but accommodating. A 6-speaker CD/MP3 sound system has also been thoughtfully added; so you can bounce to everything from Hip-Hop to Jazz. By striving to have an automobile that exemplifies its legendary predecessor, BMW engineers crafted one that evolved with its soul fully intact. The BMW 1 Series. It's pure unadulterated BMW.

GET YOUR GOAT

Top Chef winner and new Complex cuisine columnist **ILAN HALL** takes you to school for **THE ULTIMATE SUMMER BBQ.** Guard your grill!

"Roasting a whole animal on a spit is one of the oldest cooking methods and it's still one of the best. I like to see what I'm eating in its original form so I don't forget that it's an actual animal. And it makes me feel like a caveman."



THE MAIN DISH

This goat is the greatest of all time.

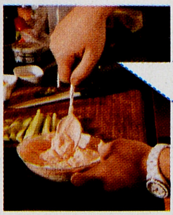
WHOLE-ROASTED BABY GOAT

Ingredients:

- **1** *baby goat ($146 from Peter's Meat Market on Arthur Avenue, the Bronx)*
- *Kosher salt to taste*
- *Black pepper to taste*

Directions:

1. **SET** Weber Summit E-650 grill (*$2,000, weber.com*) with motorized spit to high. Or you could go medieval with a stick and an open flame.
2. **DECAPITATE** goat with cleaver. Set its head aside so it doesn't have to watch. It's always real when your food has a face.
3. **REMOVE** kidneys, heart, and liver with boning knife. Heh... Boning knife.
4. **SODOMIZE** animal with metal spit—sorry, guy—and guide it through the cavity and neck. Use butcher's twine to tie it to the spit. Truss legs together.
5. **ATTACH** goat to spit rotator.
6. **SEAR** 20–30 minutes until meat blisters and sweats. Nothing sticks to a dry animal. Then sprinkle the kosher salt and black pepper inside and out.
7. **ROAST** for 3½ hours after turning heat to lowest setting. Slow and low, that's the tempo.
8. **ENSURE** that the meat is cooked; test often. Don't go raw, dog.
9. **REMOVE** legs and crispy outer layer with cleaver, and carve large chunks into bite-sized slices. Arrange artfully.



THE SAUCE

YOGURT SAUCE

Ingredients:

Two 6-oz. *tubs of Greek yogurt*
2 tbs. *finely chopped chives*
¾ medium cucumber, peeled and diced into mini matchsticks
1 tsp. *dried chipotle*
1 tsp. *Spanish pimentón*
1 tbs. *finely crushed cold smoked garlic*
1 tsp. *lemon juice*
Hawaiian black-lava salt to taste
Black pepper to taste

Directions:

SPOON yogurt into bowl.
ADD lemon juice, garlic, chives, pepper, cucumber, chipotle, salt, and pimentón. Pimentón makes any dish taste like bacon.

THE SIDE PIECE

GRILLED VEGGIES

HACKING INTO ANIMALS FEELS LIKE A SATANIC SACRIFICE. EAT VEGETABLES AND FEEL BETTER ABOUT YOURSELF.

Ingredients:

¼ lb. *Chinese bacon*
2 *Japanese eggplants*
2 *zucchini*
10 *small peppers*
2 *squash*
2 tbs. each *of apple cider vinegar, balsamic vinegar, white vinegar*
2 tbs. *fresh thyme*
Extra virgin olive oil
Kosher salt to taste
Black pepper to taste

Directions:

SLICE eggplants, zucchini, peppers, and squash lengthwise.
SPRINKLE with olive oil, season with salt and pepper. Place cuts side down on grill away from the goat for 6–7 minutes. When cooled, cube into one-inch dice.
CUT skin off bacon. Slice to ¾ the size of a Scrabble chip. Sauté over medium heat.
REMOVE all but 1 tbs. of rendered fat, once the pan is searing hot and bacon is crisp.
ADD vegetables. Continue to sauté for 1 minute.
COMBINE everything in a bowl and toss with fresh thyme and apple cider vinegar, balsamic vinegar, and white vinegar.

Photographs by CHARLOTTE DAVIS

Surfer, photographer Joe Curren wearing the Skolink plaid walkshort + Aviaerobics tee

REDSAND
redsand.com
CALIFORNIA REDWOODS

AGAVE MAGIC

Infusing tequila is easier than your guests need to know. Place a pint of cleaned and cut strawberries in a sealed container with 100 percent agave tequila and store in a refrigerator for 14 days. Don't touch. Make agave nectar syrup by combining equal parts agave nectar and water over heat in a saucepan, then cool. Good flings will come to those who wait.

Directions:
9 parts *strawberry-infused Jose Cuervo Platino tequila*
4 parts *fresh lime juice*
5 parts *agave nectar syrup*

Difficulty ●●●●●
Lady-love ●●●●○
Strength ●●●●○

BEST FOR: APARTMENT PARTY

WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE

Remember the first time you got drunk? Yeah, it's a lot like that. Part high school basement, part sorority slutfest, and part rapper's recording studio, this punch is guaranteed to keep guests awake—and completely pissy. Keep it away from Will Ferrell-in-*Old School* types, and pray that no one winds up in the hospital.

Directions:
2 parts *cognac*
1 part *Jäegermeister*
1 part *peach schnapps*
4 parts *Red Bull*

Difficulty ●○○○○
Lady-love ●●●○○
Strength ●●●●●

BEST FOR: BEACH PARTY

PUNCH DRUNK LOVE

Spiked juice helps everyone get around awkward pauses, no matter what the celebration. Complex's mixologist Tim Cooper created these **PARTY PUNCHES** to help tenderize the ladies. Grab a cup and get in line.

GOLD DIGGER'S PASSION

Happy-dancy women will be the key to a good party, and it's important to cater to them. Since guys will drink anything, and nothing screams "fun" *less* than a bunch of dudes standing around without shirts, make a batch of these for your VIP queens exclusively. Kick back poolside and let the ladies go 'head, get down.

Directions: **4 parts** *Veuve Clicquot champagne*
1 part *apricot liquor*
1½ parts *Ceres passion fruit nectar*
1 *pineapple wedge for garnish*

Difficulty ●●●○○
Lady-love ●●●●●
Strength ●●○○○

BEST FOR: POOL PARTY

PISCO PUNCH

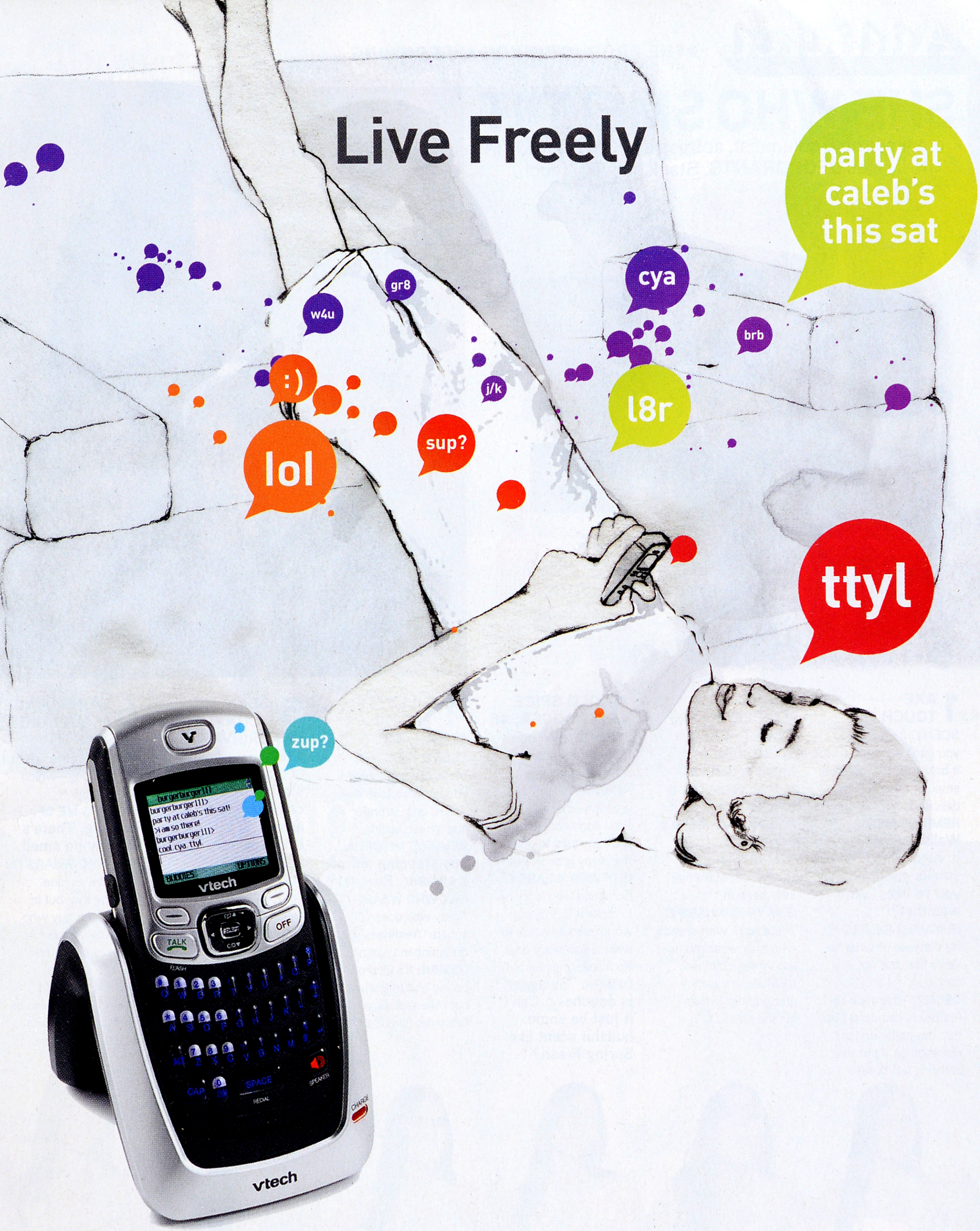
This classic was first mixed in San Francisco for gold-rushers and the dirty prostitutes who loved their money. Things are different these days, but a little Pisco and a roof full of prostitutes still sounds pretty fun. Use fresh juices and South American brandy to keep it historical.

Directions:
4 parts *Pisco Capel brandy*
2 parts *ruby red grapefruit juice*
1½ parts *pineapple juice*
1½ parts *simple syrup*
1 part *lime juice*

Difficulty ●●○○○
Lady-love ●●●●○
Strength ●●●○○

BEST FOR: ROOFTOP PARTY

Photographs by BRAD BRIDGERS


Live Freely
party at caleb's this sat
cya
gr8
w4u
brb
:)
j/k
l8r
lol
sup?
ttyl
zup?
vtech
TALK
OFF
FLASH
SPACE
REDIAL
SPEAKER
CHARGE
BUDDIES
OPTIONS

burgerburger111
burgerburger111>
party at caleb's this sat!
>i am so there!
burgerburger111>
cool. cya. ttyl

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IS 6110

The Next generation of cordless phones is here.
Introducing the VTech IS6110; a state-of-the-art DECT 6.0 cordless phone providing you crystal clear, interference free calls. Even better, it's designed to enable you to IM/IV from anywhere in the home. Pretty cool. It works as a standard cordless phone, but for those who have given up the landline; no worries. It works with your PC and broadband internet for IM/IV. Compatible with MSN® Messenger, Windows Live™ Messenger and AOL® Instant Messenger.

Available now at Best Buy and **www.vtechphones.com**

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Designed to fit your home. And your life.™

SHE WHO SMELT IT

Complex's new columnist, actress and G4 host **OLIVIA MUNN**, rates **DEODORANTS**. Stank her very much.

1

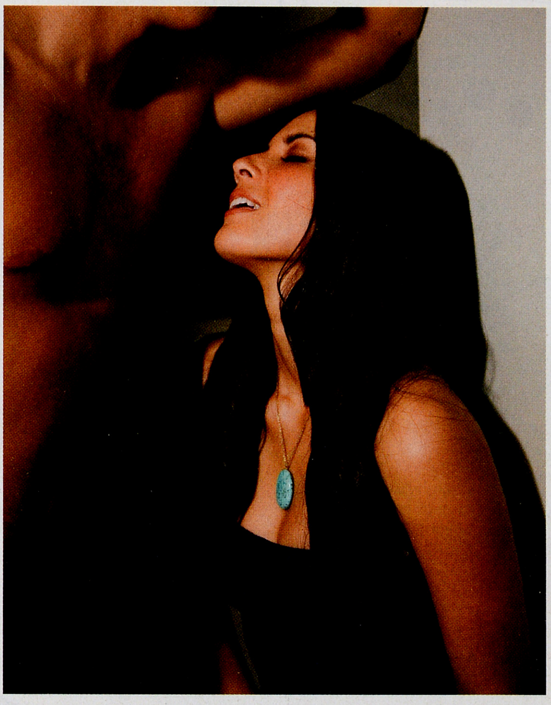
ALUMINUM & PARABEN FREE!
herbal clear
Naturally!
SPORT
CLEAR SPORT
2

Old Spice
PRO-STRENGTH
SWAGGER
ADVANCED SOLID
3

Gillette
CLINICAL STRENGTH
NET WT. 1.7 OZ (48 g)
4

UNFORGIVABLE
Sean John
DEODORANT
NET WT. 2.5 OZ./75 ML
5

Advanced Deodorant
Fragrance Free
MENSCIENCE
COMPLEX PICK
6



1 AXE TOUCH, $4

SCENT: It's subtle; you can't pinpoint it. It brings out the natural smell of men, which is delicious. Mmm.
REMINDS ME OF: **Walking by that guy in high school who smells good, and you're like, "Who was that?"**
GUY WHO WEARS IT: He's aware of what he looks like, but not in a bad way.
DESIGN: The click-up feature is cool, and I like that the bottle doesn't come off as if the user is trying too hard.

VERDICT: ●●●●○

2 HERBAL CLEAR SPORT, $3

SCENT: **Like a hippie's tampon. Is that yeast? Is it patchouli oil? Is it actually someone's period?**
REMINDS ME OF: Every thrift store I've ever been in.
GUY WHO WEARS IT: White guys with dreads who only wear musty-ass vintage clothes.
DESIGN: It's earthy and granola, which fits the smell.

VERDICT: ●○○○○

3 OLD SPICE SWAGGER, $8

SCENT: They upped it from the old school. Now it's a little too perfumey.
REMINDS ME OF: My grandpa—in a good way. But I don't necessarily want my man to remind me of my grandfather.
GUY WHO WEARS IT: Someone who is trying to make it in "big guy world" and who has to wear a suit every day. No nipple rings for him.
DESIGN: **"Swagger" is douche-y. Can't it just be some bullshit scent like Spring Fresh?**

VERDICT: ●●●○○

4 GILLETTE ARCTIC CLEAN, $8

SCENT: Clean and fresh, like something you get with soap and water, only stronger and longer-lasting.
REMINDS ME OF: **A guy stepping out of a shower. Rowrrr!!!**
GUY WHO WEARS IT: A guy who doesn't equate "freshness" to drowning in cologne.
DESIGN: It's kind of boring and utilitarian, but I like that. Guys with fancy deodorant are sad.

VERDICT: ●●●●○

5 SEAN JOHN UNFORGIVABLE, $16

SCENT: **Way too strong! It's like cologne in your armpit. It really *is* Unforgivable.**
REMINDS ME OF: Guys who wear ladies' perfume.
GUY WHO WEARS IT: Puffy. I hope he's the only one.
DESIGN: If you're going to get manicures and pedicures and carry a tote bag that matches your shoes, at least your deodorant should look manly.

VERDICT: ●○○○○

6 MENSCIENCE FRAGRANCE FREE, $17

SCENT: It doesn't smell like anything—which is amazing!
REMINDS ME OF: **Nothing. There's literally no smell.**
GUY WHO WEARS IT: I can see anyone wearing this, but in particular a guy who doesn't want his deodorant to interfere with his cologne.
DESIGN: Even if I wanted the bottle to be more ornate, what's inside is awesome.

VERDICT: ●●●●●

Photographs by SAM COMEN

NEW!
AXE SKIN CONTACT HYDRATING SHOWER GEL
AXE SKIN CONTACT
HYDRATING
...MY SKIN...
...IT'S SOMEHOW...
...TRANSFORMING!
ALL DONE? NOW I'M GONNA GET READY...
Z-Z-ZAP!
THE MOMENT OF TRUTH. THEY TOUCH.
WHOOSH!
HIS SKIN...
...CAN'T STOP...
...TOUCHING!
MAKE YOUR SKIN FEEL IRRESISTIBLE
AXE
AXE SKIN CONTACT
HYDRATING
AXE

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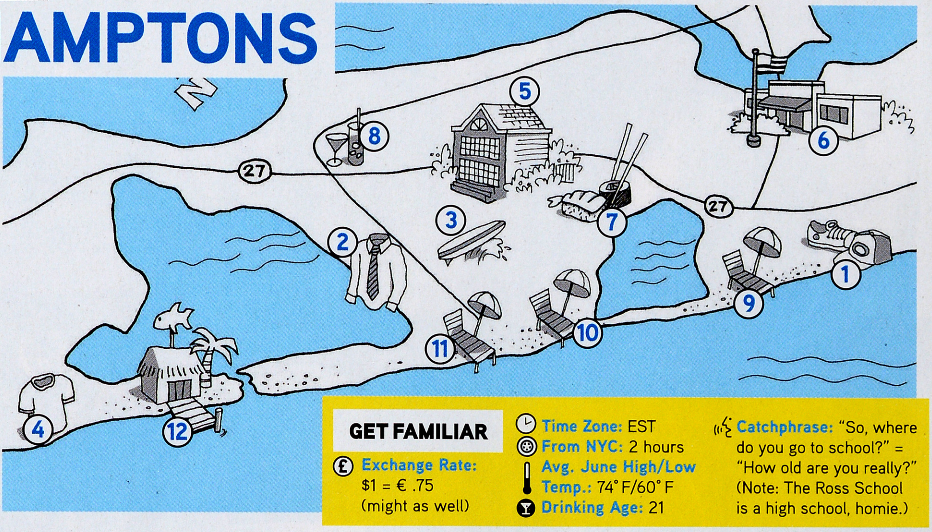
THE HAMPTONS

NYC's summer getaway may have gone from aristocratic retreat to rap experiment to white (collar) trash playpen, but the beaches are unparalleled and you can't beat hanging out with rich chicks. Here's our guide around the block.



GET FAMILIAR

£ **Exchange Rate:** $1 = € .75 (might as well)

Time Zone: EST

From NYC: 2 hours

Avg. June High/Low Temp.: 74° F/60° F

Drinking Age: 21

Catchphrase: "So, where do you go to school?" = "How old are you really?" (Note: The Ross School is a high school, homie.)

1 BLUE AND CREAM

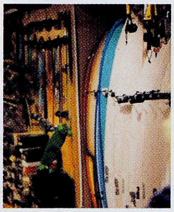
60 On the Circle, East Hampton
631-329-1392, blueandcream.com

Cool-guy spots don't always succeed out here because by the time everyone gets done grilling you, the summer is over and so is business. B & C does it right by catering to money, keeping ladies around, and stocking brands like **Pegleg**, **WeSC**, **Yigal Azrouël**, **Y-3**, and **Nike**.

2 J. MCLAUGHLIN

12 Jobs Lane, Southampton
631-283-4050, jmclaughlin.com

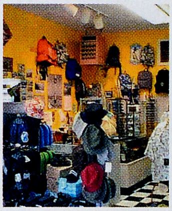
When you wake up next to a "21-year-old" in the potato field behind a McMansion, make sure to cover up the Kate Moss T-shirt with a **J. McLaughlin** gingham button-down before joining Mom for dinner. This brand/chain was making allover print pants when you were a wet dream.



3 FLYING POINT SURF SHOP

69 Main St., Southampton
631-287-0075

This mish-mash of a surf shop sells everything from hangover cures to **Ray-Bans** and **Nike SBs**. Although they can be all over the place, the staff is well-connected. Pass the douche-bag test, and they'll hook you up with surf lessons, wave reports, and lists at the right nightclubs.



4 ISLAND SURF

123 C&D Main St., Westhampton
631-288-4155, islandsurf.net

Flip-flops and sweatshirts are staples of beach-side tourist towns, and locals will sell them to tourists till the end of time if it means trips to Hawaii in the offseason. Island's got beach footwear, but if you actually surf, Shawn and his crew have boards by **Al Merrick** and **Ezera**.

WHILE YOU'RE THERE WHERE TO STAY, EAT, DRINK, AND PARTY IN THE HAMPTONS.

STAY

5 Capri

281 County Rd. 39A, Southampton
631-283-6100, hrhresorts.com/capri.htm

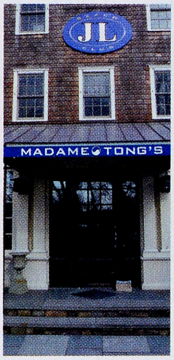
This South Beach pool party sits just far enough from the highway that your iPod can drown out the cars. Comfortable beds for rent don't come cheap, but the walk across the pool for "take-away bottle service" from the Pink Elephant nightclub makes it worth it. Kind of.

EAT

6 Dockside Bar & Grill

26 Bay St., Sag Harbor
631-725-7100

Instead of obnoxious hostesses, long waits, and shitty service at a trendy restaurant, sit outside and eat here for awesome seafood, cool boats, and solid sunsets. It's good for you, too—the restaurant uses local organic produce, free-range chicken, and fresh local fish.



NIGHTLIFE

7 Madame Tong's

256 Elm St., Southampton
631-204-0300, madametongs.com

Hamptons veterans know this place as the old live-music venue Stephen Talkhouse, but now it's the spot for sushi, creative cocktails, and a cool crew hanging out before the long haul.

8 Dune

1181 North Sea Rd., Southampton, 631-283-0808

If you just can't help yourself, Dune is the spot for skinny girls, popped bottles, and celebrities who range from Puff and Hov all the way down to Carson and Paris. Get out your snap cam, lousy starfuckers.

BEACH, PLEASE

THERE'S PLENTY OF SAND FOR ALL YOU CRABS. SNAP!

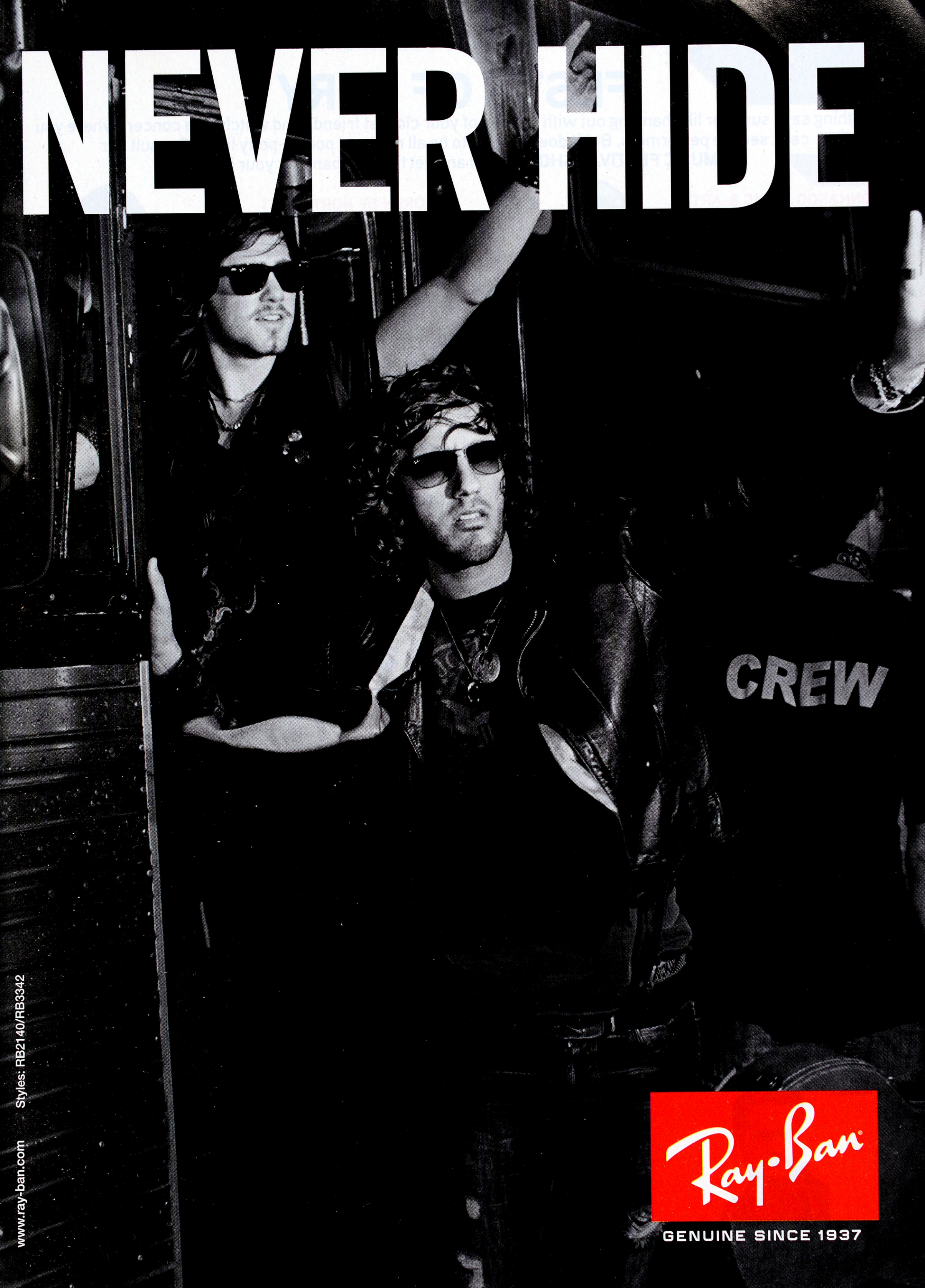
9 Main Beach
Rich girls, good waves
Ocean Ave., East Hampton

10 Flying Point
Cool kids, locals, surfing
Flying Point Rd., Water Mill

11 Fowlers
Gays, supermodels, waves
Fowlers Ln., Southampton

12 Neptunes
Fake boobs, booze, loud music
Dune Rd., East Quogue

Illustration by PAUL DOTEY


NEVER HIDE
CREW
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GENUINE SINCE 1937
www.ray-ban.com
Styles: RB2140/RB3342

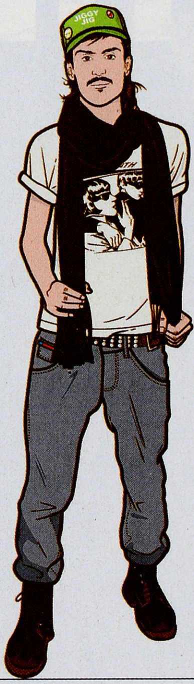
FESTS OF FURY

Nothing says summer like hanging out with 70,000 of your closest friends and watching a concert where you can't see the performers. But it doesn't have to be all mud and port-a-potty lines. Consult our **MUSIC FESTIVAL SHOWDOWN** and get the best bang for your buck.

BONNAROO MUSIC & ARTS FESTIVAL

WHAT: The Southern Woodstock—yee-haw!
WHEN: June 12–15
WHERE: Manchester, TN
FEATURED ACTS: Kanye West, Chris Rock, Pearl Jam, Metallica, Willie Nelson, Chromeo
TICKETS: $210 to $245 for a four-day pass
LOOK OUT FOR: Kanye and Willie's collabo, "I Am Always on my Mind"

Music	●●●●●
Amenities	●●●○○
Overall	●●●●●



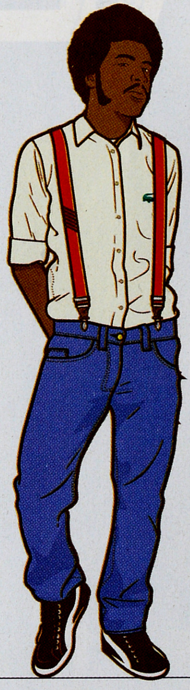
Prized Find: Purell hand sanitizer

Purell
HAND SANITIZER

NORTH BY NORTHEAST MUSIC AND FILM FESTIVAL & CONFERENCE

WHAT: "Canada's #1 showcase for new independent music, where fans can catch great local and international performers at intimate venues." LOL! (The bars are open till 4. At least they have that goin' for 'em.)
WHEN: June 12–15
WHERE: Toronto
FEATURED ACTS: The Tiger & Me, menwhopause, 6 Day Riot
TICKETS: $19 (for a one-day wristband) to $249 (for a four-day "Super Pass")
LOOK OUT FOR: Mopey white Canadian rappers

Music	●●●○○
Amenities	●●●●●
Overall	●●●●○



Prized Find: Tan lines

MARIACHI USA FESTIVAL

WHAT: "Five hours of nonstop Mariachi music... Nothing Like It in the World!" ¡Reir a carcajadas!
WHEN: June 21
WHERE: Hollywood Bowl,. Hollywood, CA
FEATURED ACTS: Mariachi USA All-Starz feat. Mariachi Los Arrieros, Mariachi Azucenas
TICKETS: $31 to $162
LOOK OUT FOR: Pendejos (a.k.a. immigration officials)

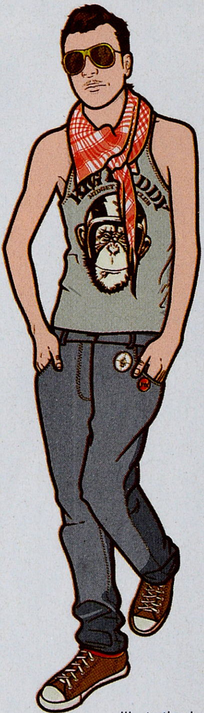
Music	●●●○○
Amenities	●●●●○
Overall	●●●○○

Prized Find: Coach Steve Mariucci

GLASTONBURY FESTIVAL OF CONTEMPORARY PERFORMING ARTS

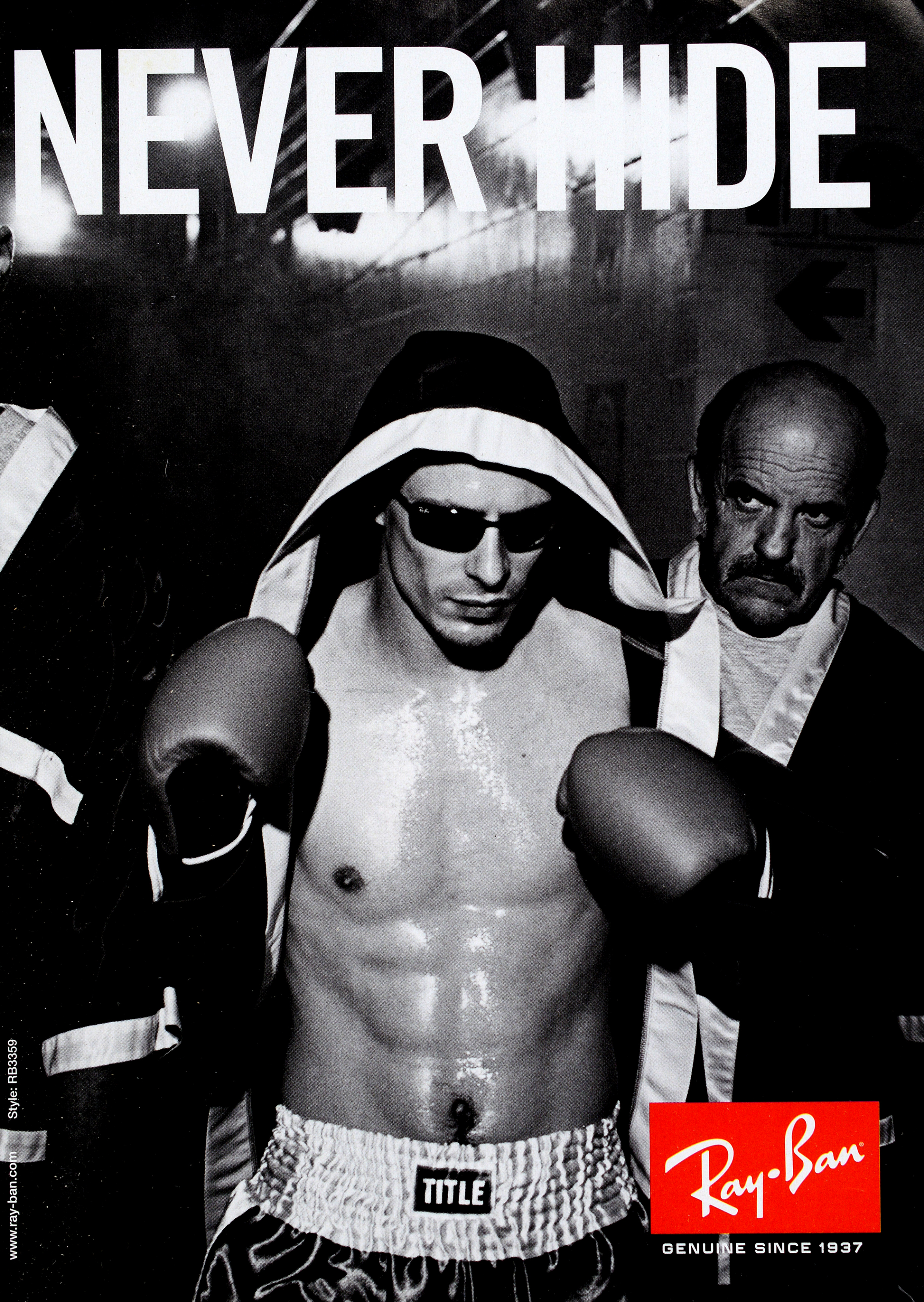
WHAT: The English Woodstock—blimey!
WHEN: June 27–29
WHERE: Glastonbury, England
FEATURED ACTS: Jay-Z, Kings of Leon, The Verve
TICKETS: £155
LOOK OUT FOR: Pete Doherty. Seriously, look out for Pete Doherty.

Music	●●●●○
Amenities	●●○○○
Overall	●●●○○



Prized Find: Dental hygiene

Illustration by MEGA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www.ray-ban.com
Style: RB3359

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AMSTERDAM 1883
MARK
eken
PARIS 1875
PARIS 188

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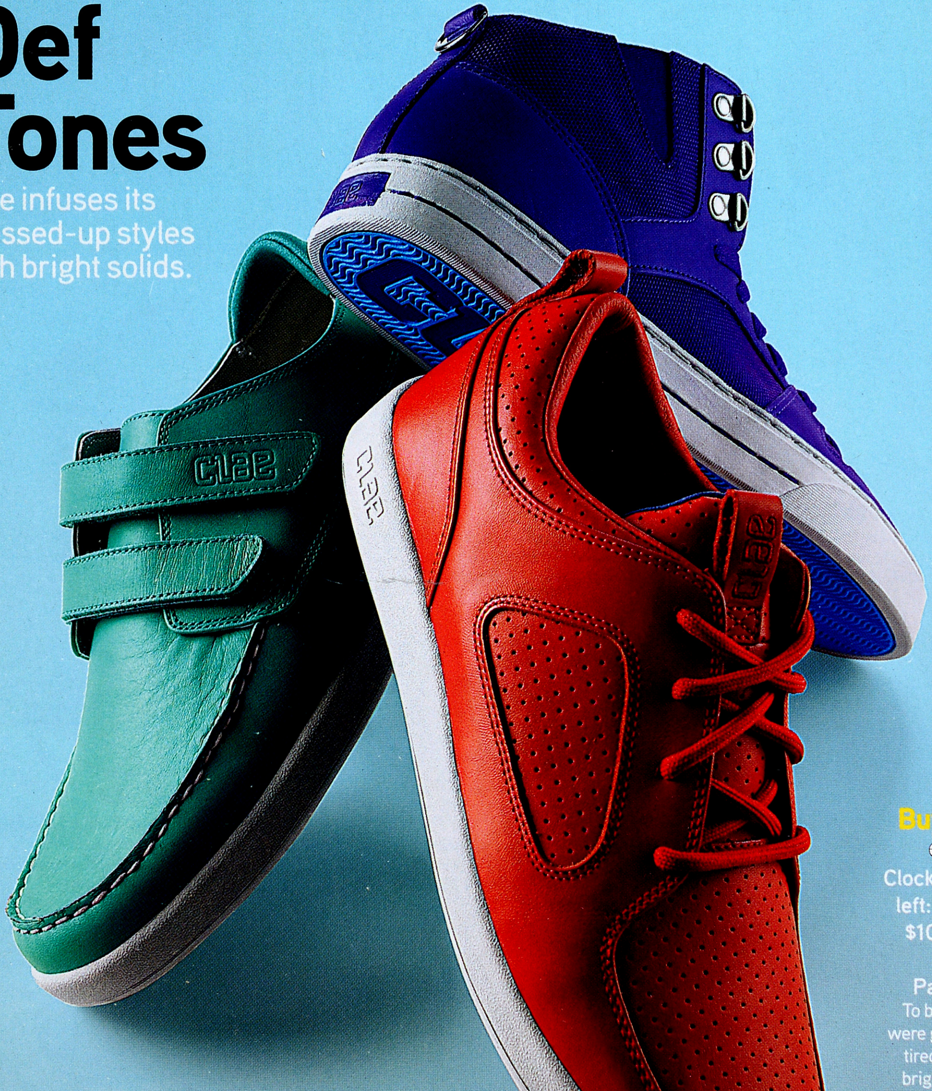
Laced

The Sneaker Guide

47 BUY IT NOW 48 LIVE STOCK 50 SPOTLIGHT 52 PLATINUM CLUB 54 PERFORMANCE

Def Tones

Clae infuses its dressed-up styles with bright solids.



Buy It Now

Clockwise from left: Cousteau, $105, Rollins, $135, and Parker, $110
To be honest, we were getting a little tired of the crazy bright colors that were hot the past couple of years. But then it got warm, we relaxed a little, and Clae previewed its new collection. Holy Awesome. Complex-copped. *clae.com*

STYLE KEY

Skate Rat Cool Guy Classic Whoa! Baller Fancy

Photograph by BRAD BRIDGERS

FIT FOR PRINT

Summer brings the green light for crispy brights. Keep your swagger high and your socks low.

Style Key

Skate Rat · Cool Guy · Classic · Whoa! · Baller · Fancy

ADIDAS ZX 9000

THIS RUNNER DROPS IN ORIGINAL COLORS FOR SUMMER, AND IT'S PART OF A LARGER ZX LAUNCH COME FALL. NEW SHIT! *$120, adidas Originals Stores*

Attention ●●●●○ **Versatility** ●●●○○

REEBOK RETRO SPORT REVERSE JAM

Cam's in hiding, so if you're not a chick, neon-pink means braving the crowd on your own. Step up. *$65, rbk.com*

Attention ●●●●● **Versatility** ●○○○○

LAKAI HOWARD WTWTA

Where the Wild Things Are movie next fall, directed by Spike Jonze: Gonna be insane. *$56, lakai.com*

Attention ●●◐○○ **Versatility** ●●●●◐

AIR JORDAN FUSION 5

The Fusions we've been waiting for! But after this, let's get back to the real retros. *$165, jumpman23.com*

Attention ●●●◐○ **Versatility** ●●●●○

GRAVIS WINSOR

Paint-dipped shoes, grip it and rip it. Looks like Gravis is getting its shit back together. *$70, gravisfootwear.com*

Attention ●●●●○ **Versatility** ●●◐○○

ETNIES X IN4MATION SAL 23

When the skate companies start doing throwbacks, you know you've seen it all. *$65, etnies.com*

Attention ●●●◐○ **Versatility** ●●●◐○

PUMA POP ART 917 LO

Roy Lichtenstein (American Pop Artist, 1923–1997). Puma (footwear company, 1920–). *$50, puma.com*

Attention ●●●○○ **Versatility** ●●●○○

ADIDAS DOLEY SLIP (GONZALES)

We heard it's gonna be a hot summer. Thin hemp = maximum vent, minimal stank. *$45, kcdcskateshop.com*

Attention ●●◐○○ **Versatility** ●●●●◐

VANS ZAPATO DEL BARCO

Now here's some boat shoes we can get down with! Vans takes white privilege to a whole 'nother level. *$60, vans.com*

Attention ●●●○○ **Versatility** ●●●●○

CREATIVE RECREATION KAPLAN

See the yacht there at the end of the harbor? Yeah, I rented that shit. Now let's go do some drugs on it! *$130, cr8rec.com*

Attention ●●○○○ **Versatility** ●●●●●

THE SANDAL RULE

Sandals are appropriate if you're on vacation or going to the beach. If you can't hear the ocean, or you're in a club where the music is louder than your voice, remember your sneakers. *Havaianas Brazil, $17, havaianas.com*

SNEAKER NEWS

O is for Olympics, and everyone from **adidas** to **Puma** to **Nike** is designing for the kids braving the smog...Pigeon 2 ...**UNDFTD** Weapon with **Converse**...July is the **Jordan** 3 Fusion... **adidas** Superskates in signature blue...**éS** backends a Gonz collab via **Krooked**...**K-Swiss** with **Atmos** and **Greyone**...**New Balance** does its own version of vintage...

Photographs by BRAD BRIDGERS

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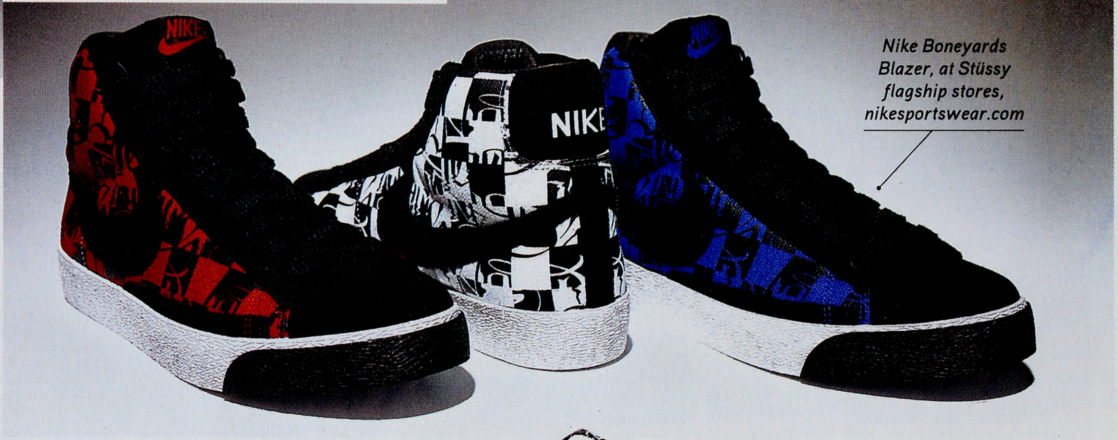
LOCALS ONLY

Nike, Neighborhood, and Stüssy team up on Boneyards, a collection inspired by the dark side of Cali surf culture.


Nike Boneyards Blazer, at Stüssy flagship stores, nikesportswear.com

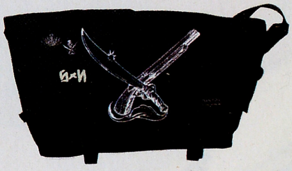
FEDORA, $40

CORROSION BACKPACK, $65

HOOD RAGLAN, $45

SPECTOR SHORT, $65

SWORD T-SHIRT, $35


SKULL MESSENGER BAG, $70

PIRATE SKULL T-SHIRT, $35

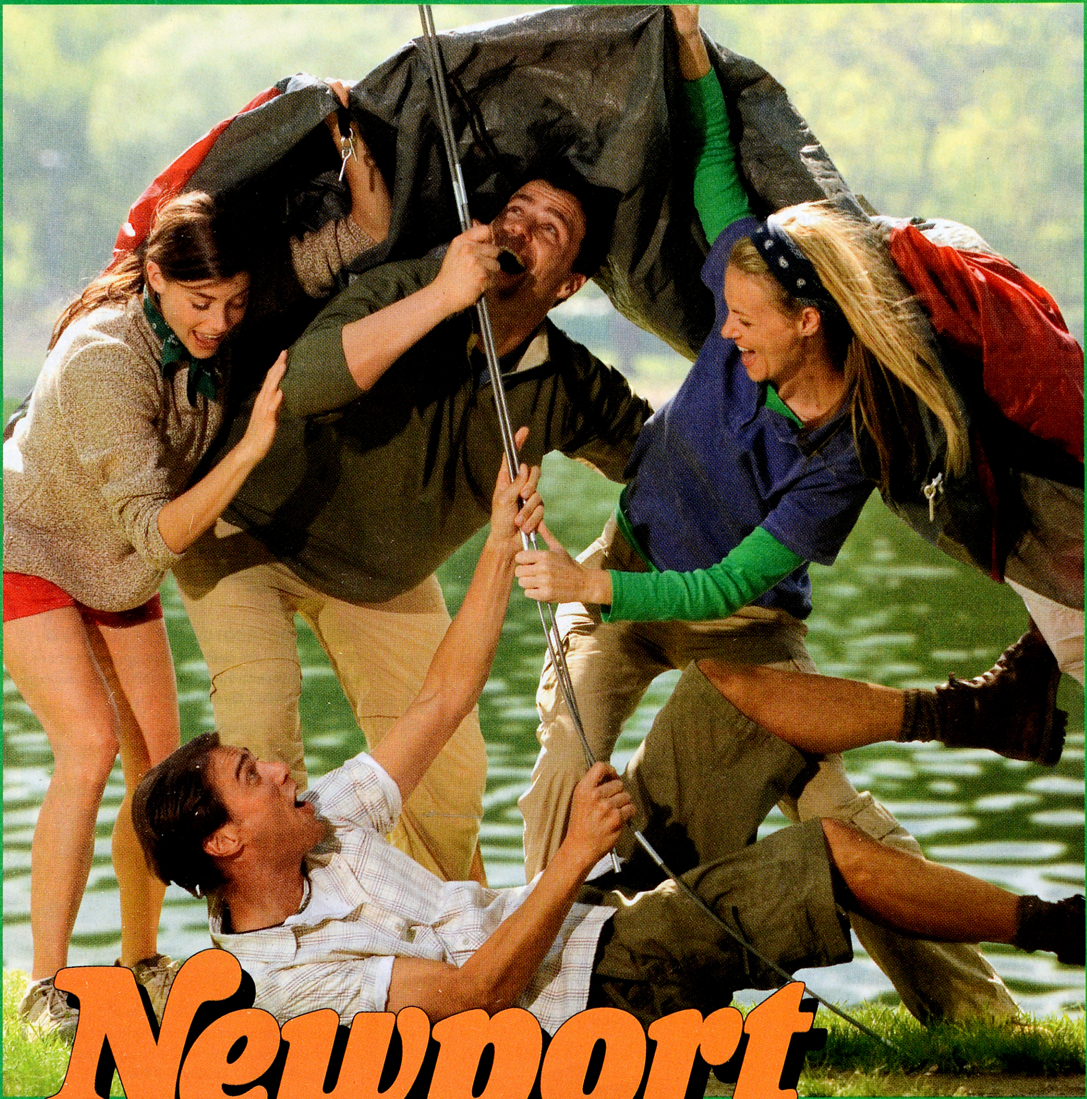
YARD HOODIE, $80

CHAMBRAY WORK SHIRT, $175

BONEYARDS

Streetwear has of late become the art of storytelling, and brands like Stüssy and Neighborhood do an excellent job of carrying themes through their seasonal lines. For the Boneyards collection, dropping throughout this summer, these two brands are working together and taking inspiration from Boneyards Beach in San Pedro, California. While the beach is a real spot, Paul Mittleman of Stüssy and Shinsuke Takizawa of Neighborhood took the rocky shore and grimy feel and imagined a dark surf vibe that they then turned into a full gangsta surf-rat line. The Nike Blazers are an extension of the clothing and accessories, and Stüssy chose the Jordan 1 color palette as a nod to skate culture's adaptation of the brand in the '80s. Hang ten, homie.

Photographs by BRAD BRIDGERS



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Lights Box: 9 mg. "tar," 0.8 mg. nicotine; Medium Box: 12 mg. "tar," 1.0 mg. nicotine; Box: 17 mg. "tar," 1.2 mg. nicotine av. per cigarette by FTC method.

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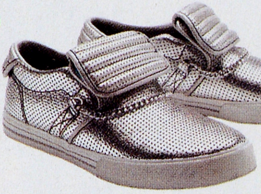
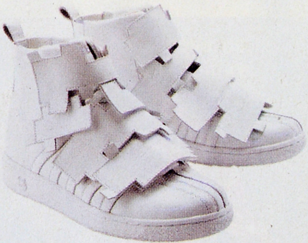
Style Key

🐀 Skate Rat
🕶 Cool Guy
🎩 Classic
💥 Whoa!
🏀 Baller
🎀 Fancy



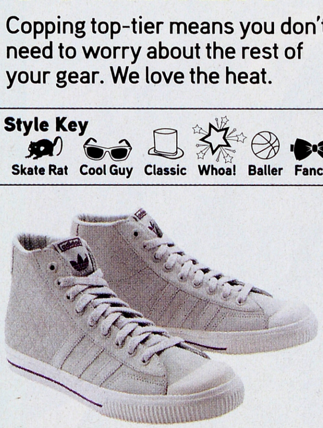
SUPRA SILVER CUBAN NS 🕶

Wow. Shiny. *$85, onedist.com, trainingcampstores.com*
Design ●●●◐○ **Quality** ●●●○○



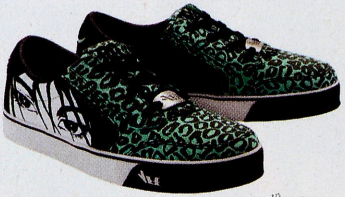
HEDERUS FOR K-SWISS 🎀 💥

Julia Hederus, a Central St. Martin's alum, takes a high-fashion, high-velcro look at the tennis classic. *$240, oki-ni.com* **Design** ●●●●● **Quality** ●●●○○



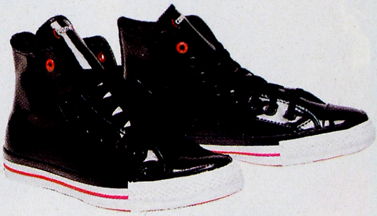
ADIDAS ADITENNIS HI 🎩

Light purple is gonna get you in with the fashion set, and at this price, grab two. *$60, adidas Originals stores*
Design ●●●◐○ **Quality** ●●●◐○



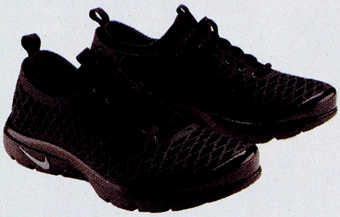
DC ARTIST PROJECTS METH II 💥

Meth-amphibian crosses over from sneaker customizer to sneaker designer. Again. *$90, dcshoes.com*
Design ●●●○○ **Quality** ●●●○○



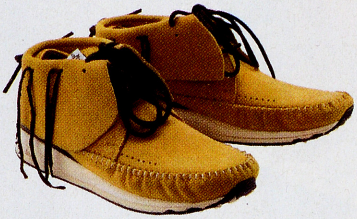
CONVERSE (RED) CARPET CHUCK 🕶

Only Lupe has been seen rocking these award-show stompers, but be on the lookout. *Not currently available*
Design ●●●●○ **Quality** ●●●○○



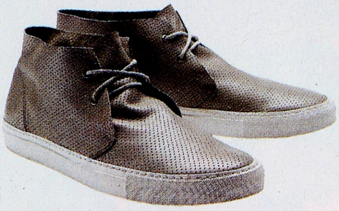
NIKE REJUVEN8 🏀

This is the most comfortable shoe on the market. Buy a pair and never look back. *$90, nike.com*
Design ●●●●◐ **Quality** ●●●●○



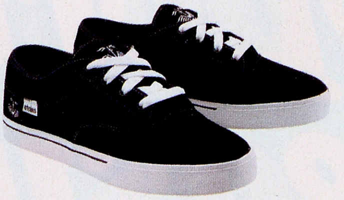
VISVIM G.FBT 💥 🎩

It's expensive, but there's nothing else like 'em out there. Conspicuous consumption, defined. *$365, hufsf.com*
Design ●●●●○ **Quality** ●●●●○



GENERIC MAN CHUCKMAN 🎩 🎀

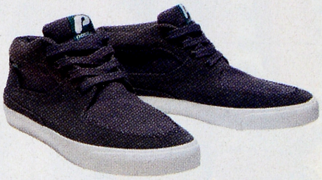
At some point you're going to get invited to a party where you want to look nice. Promise. *$225, thegenericman.com*
Design ●●●●○ **Quality** ●●●●◐



ETNIES X VERTE JAMESON 🐀

What happens when you tell NYC kids to make a shoe? A solid dose of black. Done right. *$52, vertelife.com*
Design ●●●○○ **Quality** ●●●○○

COMPLEX RETAIL



POINTER MATHIESON 🎩 🕶

Maybe these guys should have called their company "Laid-Back and Classy." *$132, trainingcampstores.com*
Design ●●●●○ **Quality** ●●●●○

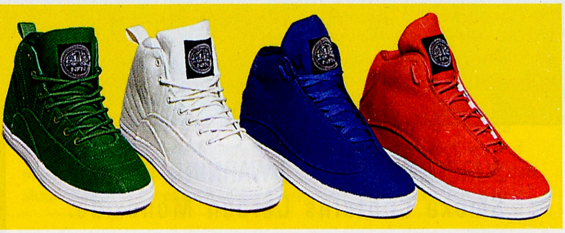
Think of the Complex Platinum Club as a retail version of this magazine. We put all the hard-to-find stuff from the pages into a private store. Simple. Awesome. Different. No lines. Stop by Training Camp at 1079 6th Ave. in NYC weekday afternoons, or request an appointment on complex.com.

TOP SHELF

SPECIAL PROPS FOR SPECIAL DROPS.

GOURMET IN YOUR FACE 🕶 💥

Although they make T-shirts, Gourmet reps will tell you that it isn't a streetwear brand. The company makes a $20,000 diamond-encrusted octopus ring, but these guys aren't a jewelry brand, either. It is best known for canvas versions of Jordans, but sneaker freaks aren't calling bullshit. How do they get away with it? The shit is cool, so people are buying it. In other words, don't worry about it. Check out the luxe-Italian styling of the newest kicks to hit the radar, and decide for yourself.



(left to right) SANTO, $160, and DIABLO, $160, gourmetinyourface.com

Photographs by BRAD BRIDGERS

ZRi
- Ultra-high performance handling
- 38 sizes from 15″ to 20″
- W, V & H Speed Rated

HRi
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- 24 sizes from 14″ to 17″
- H Speed Rated

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- 8 sizes from 15″ to 17″
- V Speed Rated

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JUMP OFF A BUILDING

Warm weather means two things: falls hurt less, and new **SKATE SHOES** hit stores. Happy summer.

NIKE ZOOM TRE A.D.

Following in the footsteps of the original Tre, Nike slimmed down the midsole on the A.D. —a little bulky on the original—and used elements of its free-sole-running technology to improve board feel. The indestructible rubber crosshatch from the first round is still here, and a grippy heel cup means these are gonna be on your feet till you wear out the soles. In a sport that questions change, things are looking forward. *$95, nikeskateboarding.com*

C1RCA SELECT 99 VULC

A solid vulcanized skate shoe—but if you have sweaty feet, beware the leather footbed. *$84, c1rca.com*

Durability ●●●○○ **Board Feel** ●●●○○

GLOBE PUZZLE II DUNCOMBE

This is a wider, bulkier shoe. The vulc sole means grippy board feel but minimal cushion. *$70, globe.tv*

Durability ●●●○○ **Board Feel** ●●●●○

ÉS SCREEN

A follow-up to the Scale, it's one of the higher-tech light shoes out. Liking the AM95 colorup. *$90, esfootwear.com*

Durability ●●●●● **Board Feel** ●●●○○

VANS AV3

Anthony Van England's signature model makes for a super-simple and grippy comfort shoe. *$65, vans.com*

Durability ●●●●○ **Board Feel** ●●●●○

ADIDAS GAZELLE SKATE

The classic styling of the original gets souped up with a gel insert to keep heels intact. *$65, adidasskateboarding.com*

Durability ●●●●○ **Board Feel** ●●●●○

EMERICA REYNOLDS LIGHTS

This shoe uses a single piece of material around the toe-cap to minimize wear and weight. *$85, emericaskate.com*

Durability ●●●●○ **Board Feel** ●●●○○

OSIRIS DUFFEL

Corey Duffel takes some Tim Burton steez to this price range. Better for wider feet. *$63, osirisshoes.com*

Durability ●●●○○ **Board Feel** ●●○○○

DVS ZERED BASSETT

Part of the bar series, this comes with a free drink ticket in the sole, redeemable at NYC's Max Fish. *$80, dvsshoes.com*

Durability ●●○○○ **Board Feel** ●●●○○

LAKAI KOSTON ELECTION SERIES

For one of the year's most highly anticipated re-releases, Koston takes you back, and slims it up. *$80, lakai.com*

Durability ●●●●● **Board Feel** ●●●●○

Photographs by BRAD BRIDGERS

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Hooked Up

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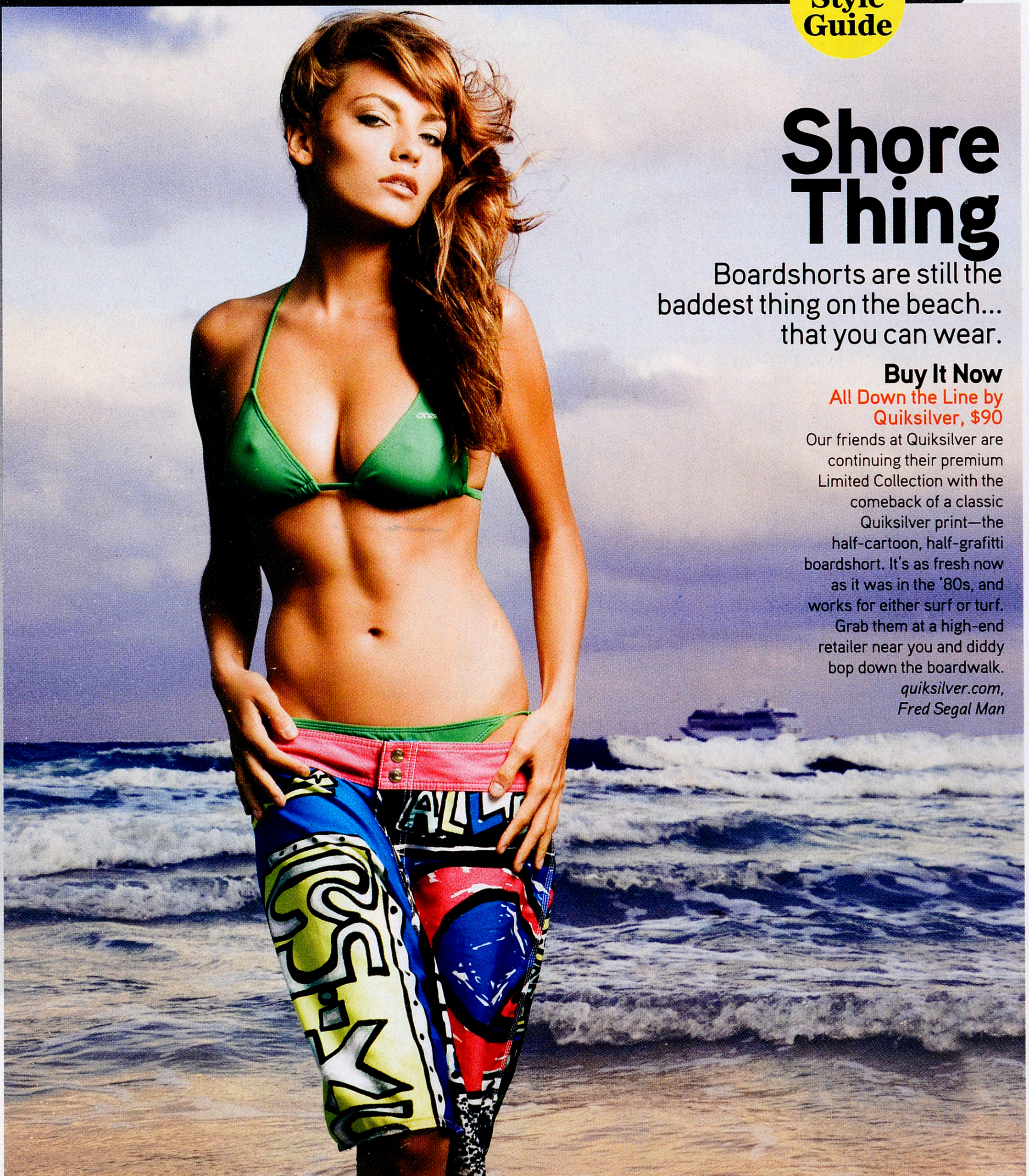
72 HATS 77 TREND WATCH 78 STREET DETAIL 81 TRENDHUMPER

The Style Guide



Shore Thing

Boardshorts are still the baddest thing on the beach... that you can wear.

Buy It Now

All Down the Line by Quiksilver, $90

Our friends at Quiksilver are continuing their premium Limited Collection with the comeback of a classic Quiksilver print—the half-cartoon, half-grafitti boardshort. It's as fresh now as it was in the '80s, and works for either surf or turf. Grab them at a high-end retailer near you and diddy bop down the boardwalk. *quiksilver.com, Fred Segal Man*

Photograph by JARED RYDER

havaianas®

The original Brazilian rubber flip flop. From the west coast beaches of Laguna and Santa Barbara down to the heart of Miami and along the River Walk in San Antonio, Havaianas TREND will get you there in comfort and style. With cool stripes and the seasons best colors, Havaianas has your look covered this summer no matter where you live. *Havaianasus.com*

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MIAMI
NIKKI BEACH CLUB

Arguably the most ideal spot to rock your Havaianas anywhere on the planet, the daytime scene at Nikki Beach is part fashion show, part sun-drenched dance party, and part gourmet restaurant all rolled into one. Nikki Beach Club is the ultimate in people-watching and the perfect way to spend an afternoon soaking up the quintessential South Beach scene.

SANTA BARBARA
O'MALLEY'S

Bring your attitude for loud mingling and dancing as this dive bar located on an action packed block is a hit with a mostly young and hip crowd. The casual atmosphere contrasts with some of the more slick bars in town, allowing for a relaxed atmosphere to enjoy your drinks. Keep an eye out for celebrity bartenders and guest appearances during Fiesta, Santa Barbara's summertime festival!

LAGUNA BEACH
CHANTILLY ICE CREAM

Located right off the PCH, this hole-in-the-wall ice cream parlor offers both relief from the heat (via a tasty frozen treat) as well as the perfect date spot. This parlor, packed with a host of homemade ice cream flavors and some of the best smoothies you'll find is a not-to-be-missed staple of the Laguna Beach lifestyle.

SAN ANTONIO
THE RIVER WALK

The Riverwalk is one of the most visited places in all of Texas for good reason - it's got everything you need in one spot. From sipping a drink in the sun while watching the parade of locals and tourists to tasting some of the best Tex-Mex cuisine in the world to staying in luxurious hotels to getting your groove on in the clubs. No matter what you feel up to, you won't be bored.

BRAZIL: THE BEACH HOUSE FOR THE WORLD.
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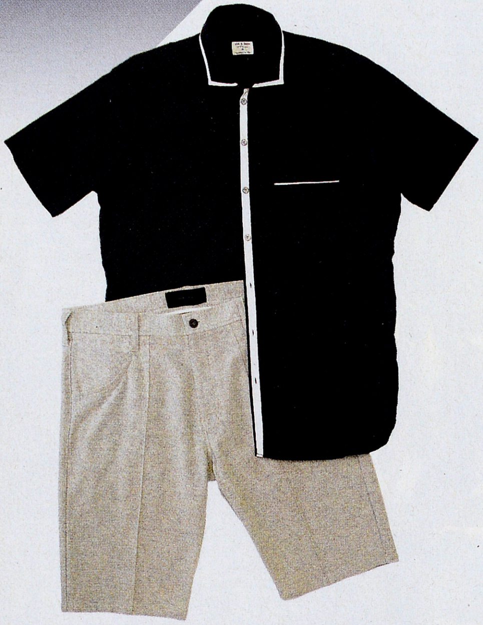
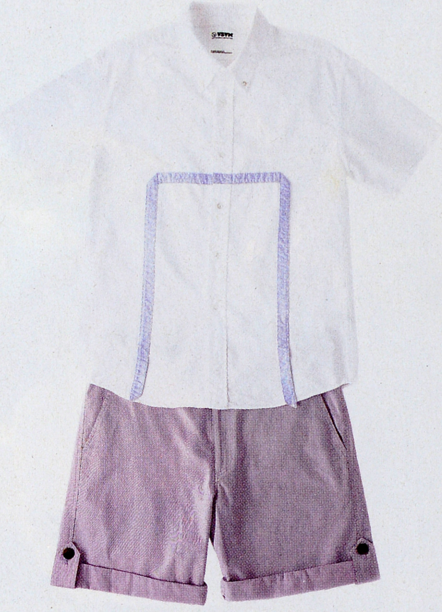
havaianasus.com

SHORT ROUND

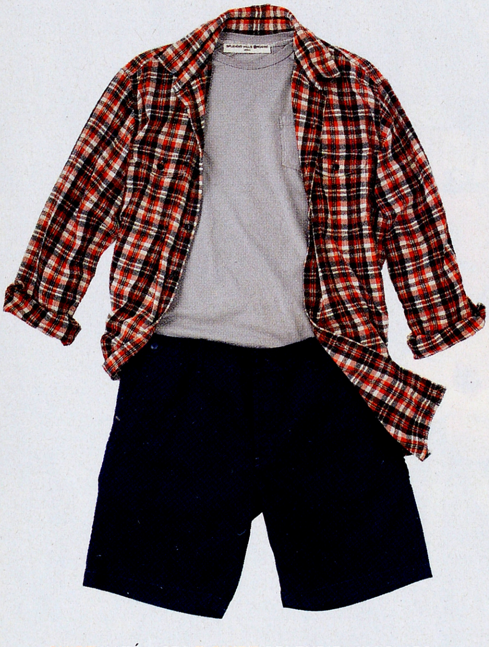
Just because you're rocking shorts doesn't mean you have to resemble a third-grader. Match wisely.



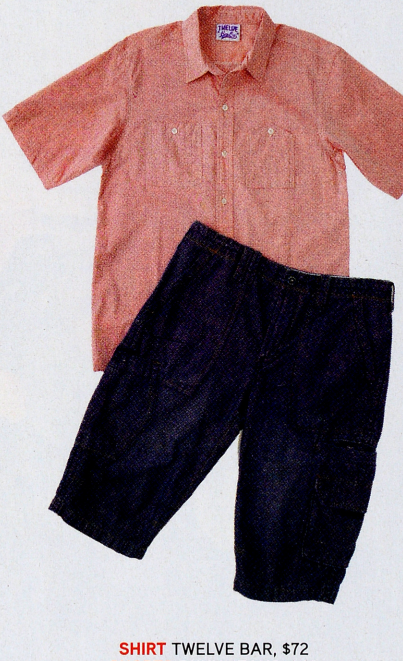
SHIRT RAG & BONE, $225
SHORTS WINGS + HORNS, $168



SHIRT VISVIM G., $304
SHORTS WOOD WOOD, $120



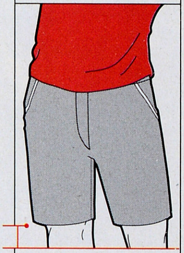
SHIRT KATÓ, $250 **T-SHIRT** SPLENDID MILLS, $50
SHORTS DIESEL, $350



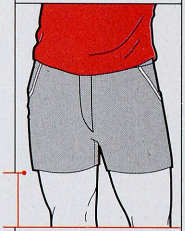
SHIRT TWELVE BAR, $72
SHORTS DKNY JEANS, $60

Just the Tips

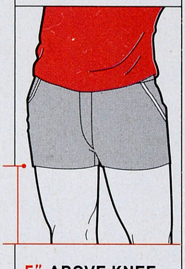
ABOVE-THE-KNEE IS THE TREND, BUT HOW HIGH SHOULD YOU GO?



1" ABOVE KNEE: GO LONGER ONLY IF YOU HAVE JOHN MCCAIN'S WRINKLY KNEES. OR HIS WRINKLY BALLS.



3" ABOVE KNEE: YEAH, YOU'RE STYLE-FORWARD, BUT GET READY FOR BOY SCOUT JOKES. NOW GO SOMEWHERE AND PITCH A TENT.



5" ABOVE KNEE: ONLY IF YOU'RE ON A EURO BEACH TRIP. OR AT THE ANNUAL NAMBLA BARBECUE.

Photographs by BRAD BRIDGERS

PROXIMITY.
NEW SUBTLE
FRAGRANCES
FROM AXE ››

NEW
AMBER
AXE
PROX
BODYFRAGRANCE
NEW
BERGAMOT
AXE
PROXIMITY
BODYFRAGRANCE
XIMITY

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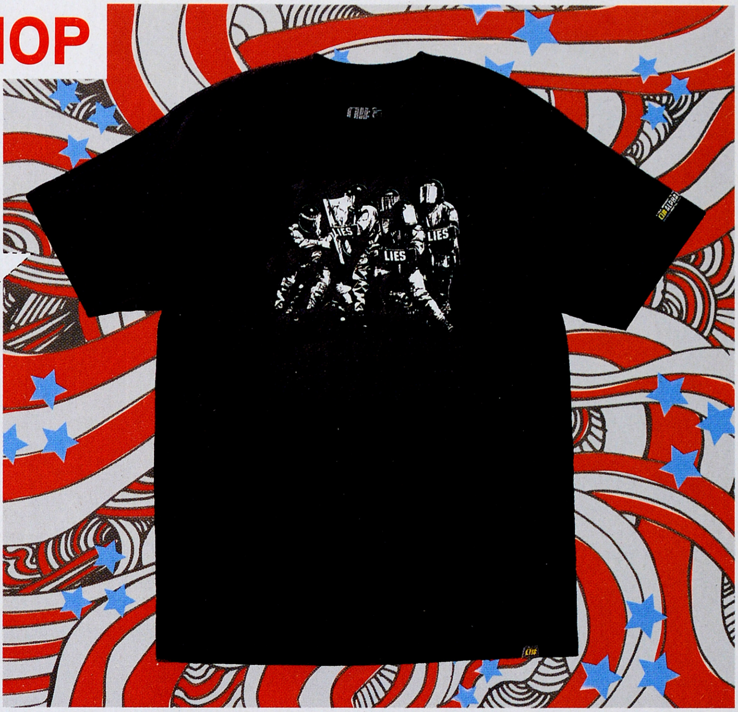
PROTEST SHOP

The best thing about democracy? Voicing dissatisfaction. And there's *plenty* to be pissed about.



BRAND SHOUT
ALPHANUMERIC

TEN YEARS AFTER IT DEBUTED, THE BRAND WITH THE TIMELESS "A#" LOGO IS RELAUNCHING WITH ALL-NEW TEES AND SWEATS; MANY WITH TYPICALLY SUBVERSIVE MESSAGES. LOOK FOR RE-RELEASES OF A#'S FAMOUS MIXTAPES.

COMPLEX PICK

RIOT
$26, ROBUSTFLAVOR.COM

RUNNING THE OPTIONS

MORE MARINE-INSPIRED PIECES TO FLOAT YOUR BOAT.

SUPREME, $74

BILLIONAIRE BOYS CLUB, $120

CROOKS & CASTLES
$36, cmonwealth.com

MISHKA
$35, mishkanyc.com

FIBEROPS
$38, robustflavor.com

"AGAINST"
HATE AND ROCKETS

ROCKERS NYC
$45, rockersnyc.com

JUST ANOTHER RICH KID
$65, justanotherrichkid.com

FRESHJIVE
LIBERTY
OR DEATH
DONT TREAD ON ME

FRESHJIVE
$21, freshjive.com

STAPLE
$33, digitalgravel.com

IF WE MUST DIE

TOO BLACK GUYS
$40, nineteen-ninety.com

Illustration by KENNETH MARSHALL

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Take MySpace™ with you

Stay on top of messages and pix – and even update your blog – while you're out and about, thanks to your AT&T phone. After all, there are over 100 million people on MySpace. So you've got to make sure your space stays current.

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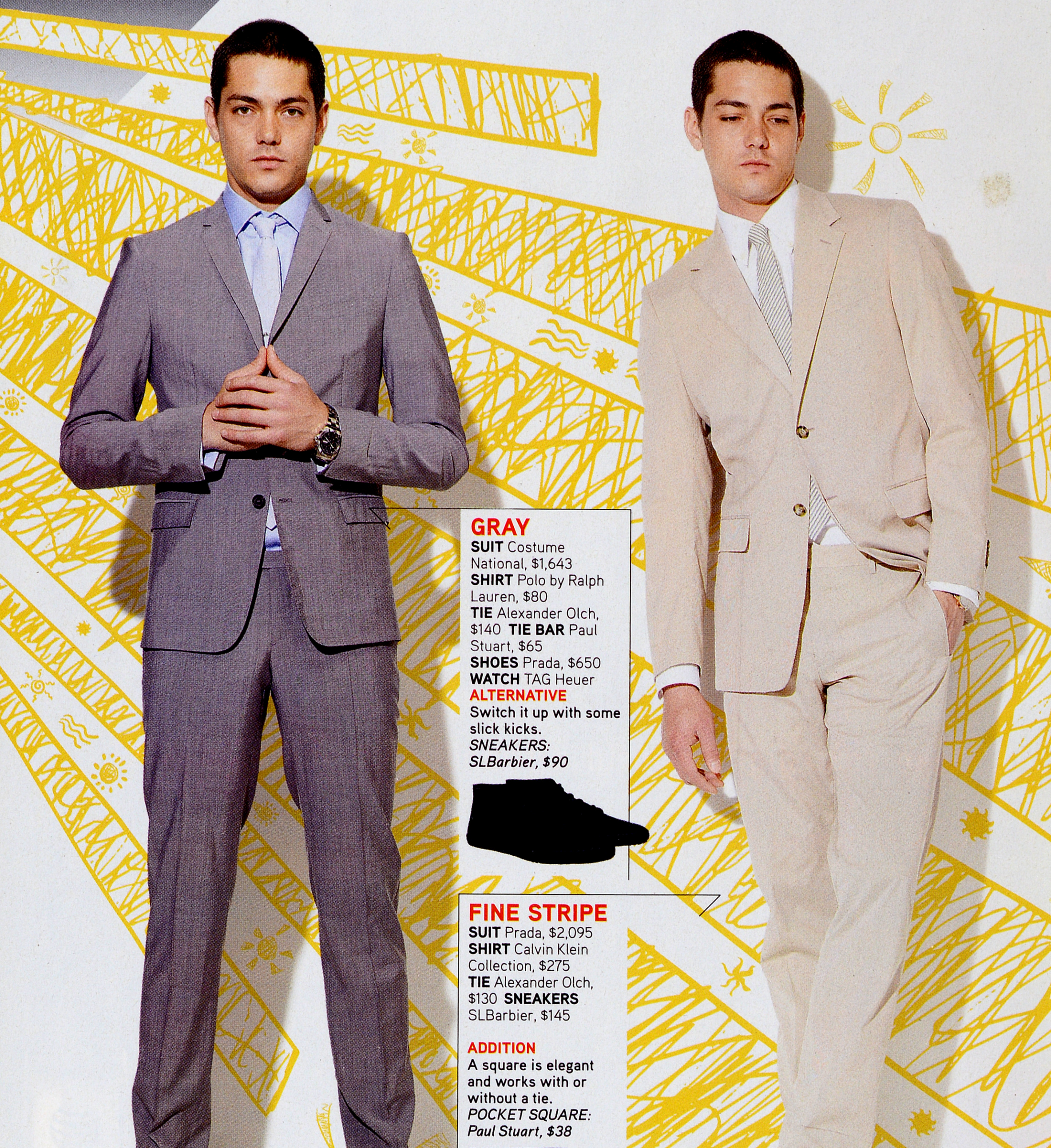
SUITS TO KILL

Beach wear is great...for the beach. Sharpen up this summer in the season's most versatile suits.



GRAY

SUIT Costume National, $1,643 **SHIRT** Polo by Ralph Lauren, $80 **TIE** Alexander Olch, $140 **TIE BAR** Paul Stuart, $65 **SHOES** Prada, $650 **WATCH** TAG Heuer

ALTERNATIVE

Switch it up with some slick kicks.

SNEAKERS: SLBarbier, $90

FINE STRIPE

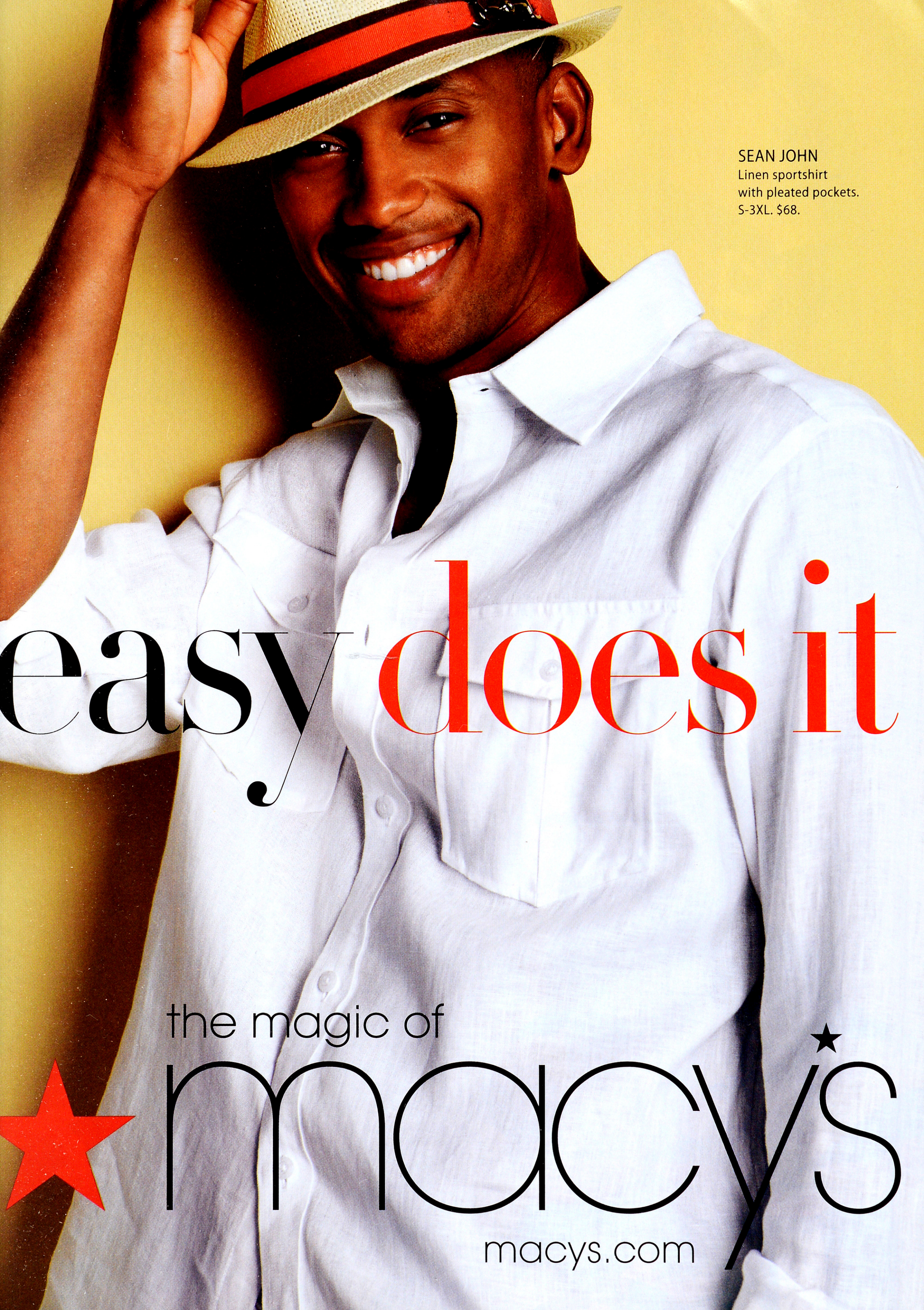
SUIT Prada, $2,095 **SHIRT** Calvin Klein Collection, $275 **TIE** Alexander Olch, $130 **SNEAKERS** SLBarbier, $145

ADDITION

A square is elegant and works with or without a tie.

POCKET SQUARE: Paul Stuart, $38

Photographs by LUKE BARBER-SMITH


easy does it
the magic of
macy's
macys.com

SEAN JOHN
Linen sportshirt
with pleated pockets.
S-3XL. $68.

fierce
Coogi
Coogi

ROCAWEAR
ig R logo hat. Cotton.
izes 7.25-8. $28.
ig R logo polo
n 30 colors.
otton. L-3XL. $48.
laid cargo shorts.
otton. Waists 32-42. $64.

ogo tee. Cotton.
-3XL. $32.
olid color
argo shorts. Cotton.
Vaists 32-42. $48.

pposite page:
COOGI
mbroidered tee.
otton. L-3XL. $70.
enim shorts with
ontrast stitching.
otton. Waists 32-42. $98.

ulti-color piqué polo.
otton. L-3XL. $82.
mbroidered multi-color
enim shorts. Cotton.
Vaists 32-42. $98.

brights
the magic of
macy's
macys.com

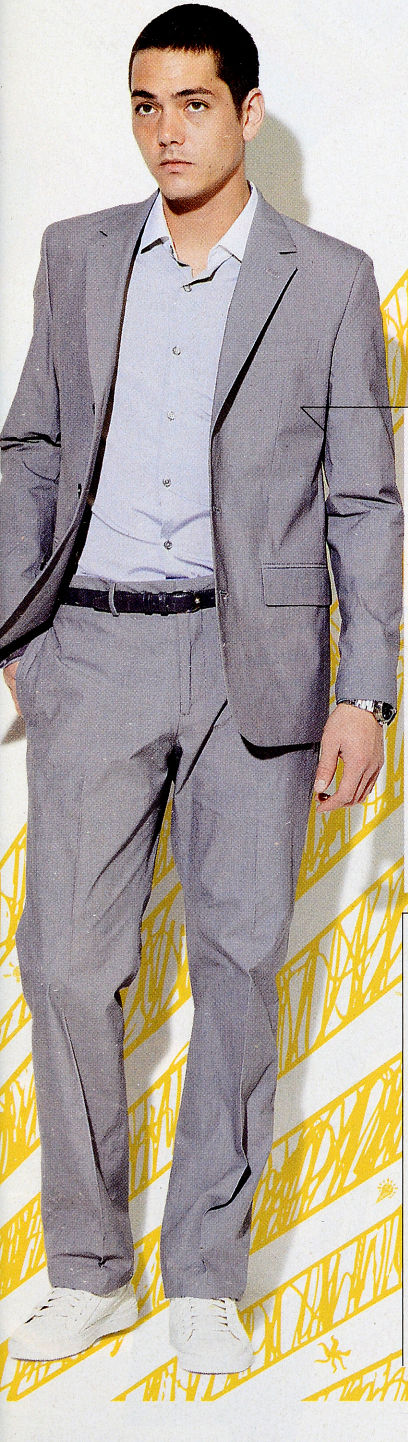
natural neutrals
the magic of
macy's
macys.com

LRG
Mad Love polo.
Cotton. M-XXL. $56.
Plaid cargo shorts.
Cotton. Waists 32-42. $59.

Logo tee. Cotton.
M-XXL. $24.
Solid color cargo
shorts. Cotton.
Waists 32-42. $59.

Our free shopping service is just a phone call away! Linda Lee & her personal shoppers at Macy's by Appointment will help you find what you need. 1-800-343-0121.

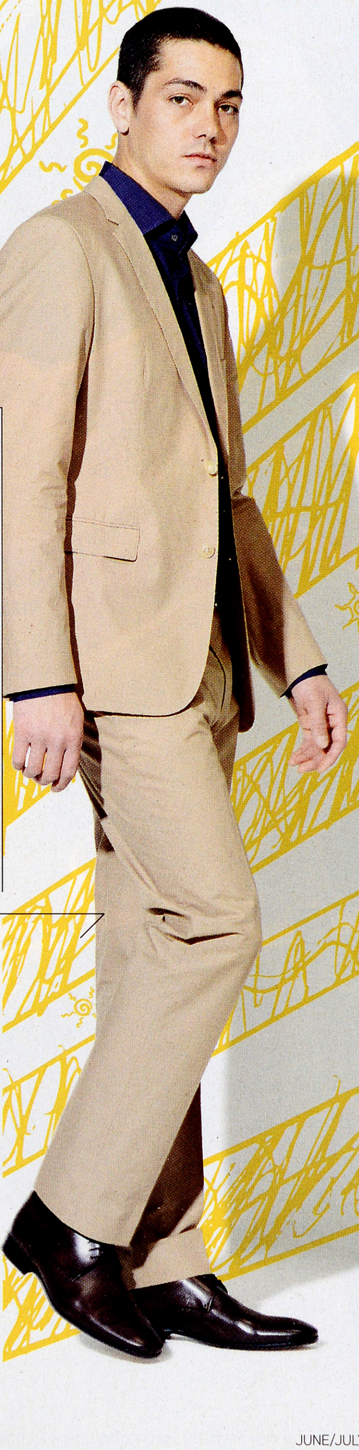
On 1½ Herald Square and at select stores. For store locations and hours, log on to macys.com



COTTON

SUIT Club Monaco, (jacket) $229 and (pants) $129 **SHIRT** Boss Black, $125 **BELT** Reiss, $85 **SNEAKERS** The Generic Man, $295 **WATCH** Girard-Perregaux

ALTERNATIVE
Try a striped shirt for a little flair. *SHIRT: Phineas Cole, $228*



KHAKI

SUIT Boss Black, $895 **SHIRT** DKNY, $165 **SHOES** Boss Black, $295

ADDITION
Backpacks are for kids. *BAG: WANT Les Essentiels de la Vie, $625*

Just the Tips

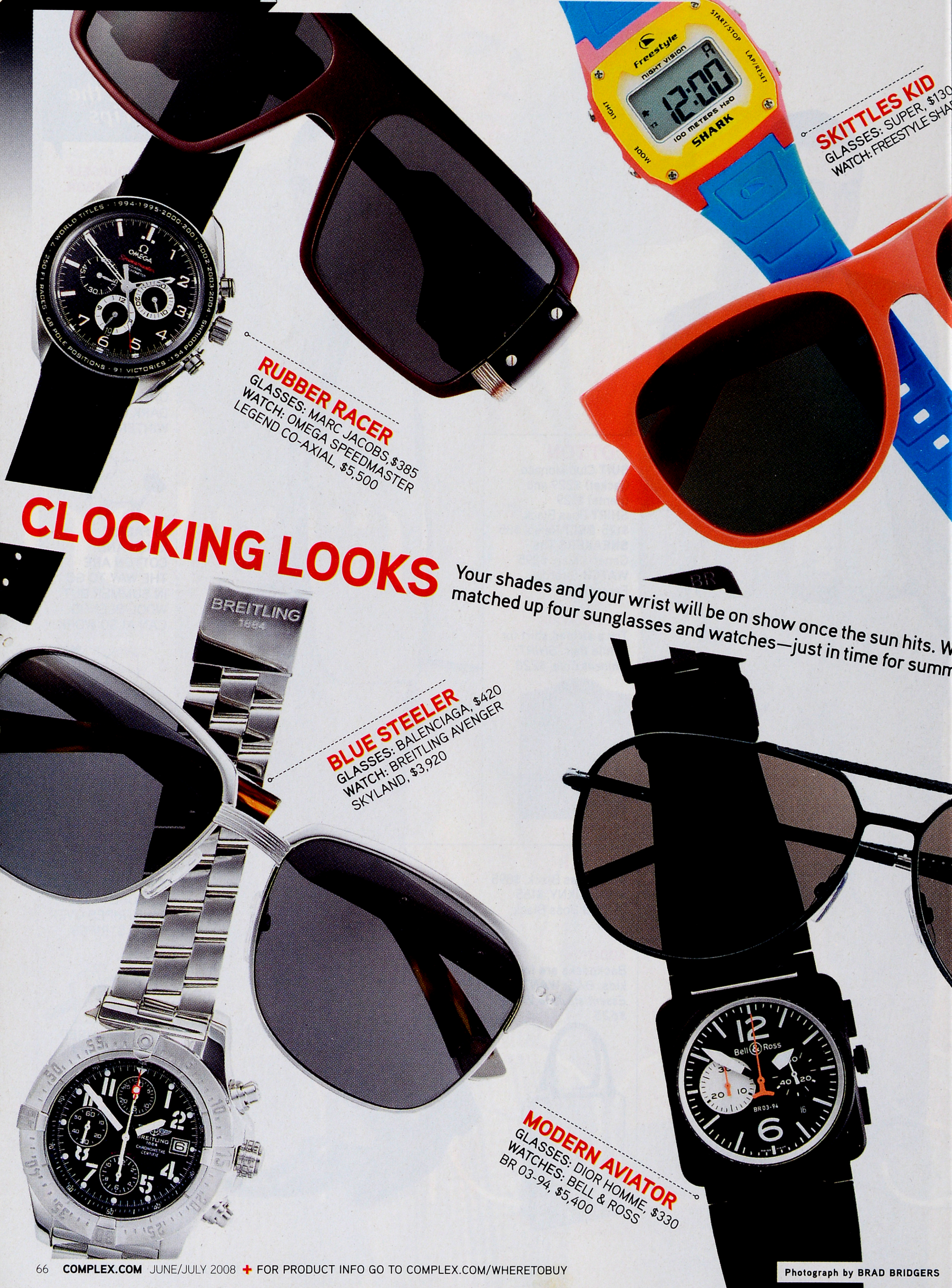
SUIT YOURSELF IN ANY SEASON.

1) SEASON
THE GOAL IS TO OWN TWO GO-TO SUITS—ONE FOR SUMMER AND ONE (BLACK OR DARK GRAY) FOR WINTER.

2) FABRIC
LINEN AND COTTON ARE THE WAY TO GO IN SUMMER BUT WOOL-BLENDS CAN ALSO WORK.

3) COLOR
LIGHT GRAY WORKS WITH ANY COMPLEXION. FOR KHAKI, MATCH THE SHADE TO YOUR SKIN AND YOUR FAVORITE SHIRT COLOR. AVOID WHITE SUITS AND CHOOSE FINE PINSTRIPES OVER BOLD STRIPES.

4) FIT
GET MEASURED BEFORE BUYING ANY SUIT. AFTERWARDS, HAVE A TAILOR REFINE IT TO FIT YOUR BODY. A SUIT SHOULD BE AS COMFORTABLE AS WEARING A T-SHIRT AND JEANS.


Freestyle
NIGHT VISION
12:00
100 METERS H2O
SHARK
START/STOP
LAP/RESET
LIGHT
MODE
OMEGA
BREITLING
1884
Bell & Ross
BR 03-94

CLOCKING LOOKS

Your shades and your wrist will be on show once the sun hits. W
matched up four sunglasses and watches—just in time for summ

SKITTLES KID
GLASSES: SUPER, $130
WATCH: FREESTYLE SHA

RUBBER RACER
GLASSES: MARC JACOBS, $385
WATCH: OMEGA SPEEDMASTER
LEGEND CO-AXIAL, $5,500

BLUE STEELER
GLASSES: BALENCIAGA, $420
WATCH: BREITLING AVENGER
SKYLAND, $3,920

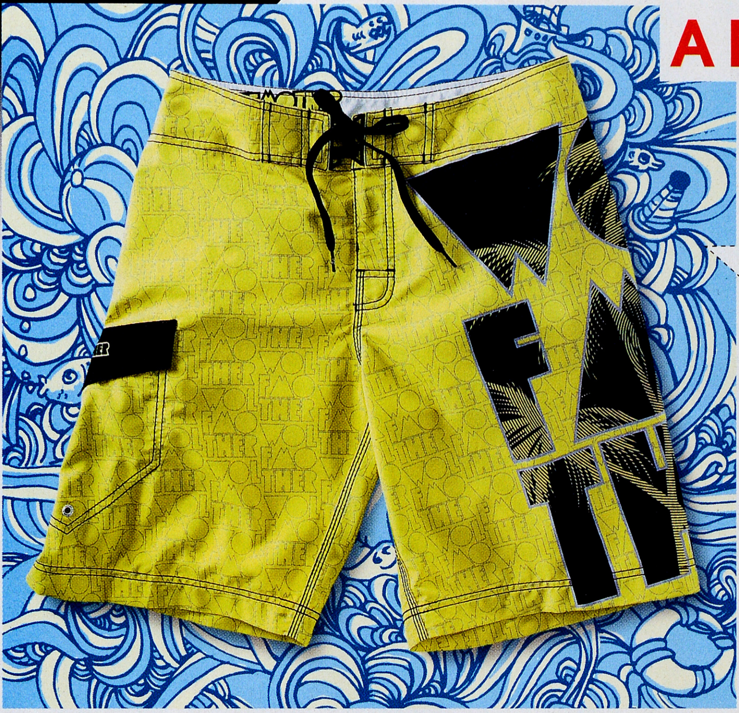
MODERN AVIATOR
GLASSES: DIOR HOMME, $330
WATCHES: BELL & ROSS
BR 03-94, $5,400

Photograph by BRAD BRIDGERS

ROCKPORT
ESTABLISHED 1971
STREETWEAR ONLINE
karma loop
.com

A BOARD TOUR

Our lofty goal for summer—figuring a way to spend at least half of it in boardshorts.



BRAND SHOUT
BILLABONG

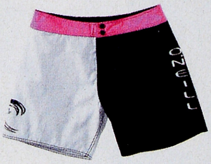
WITH DEEP ROOTS IN SURF CULTURE, BILLABONG HAS BEEN A LEADER IN BOARDSHORTS SINCE 1973. ITS RECENT MUSIC SERIES, LIKE THE PICTURED WOLFMOTHER COLLAB, HAVE KEPT THE AUSSIE BRAND AS FRESH AS EVER.

COMPLEX PICK

WOLFMOTHER
$65, BILLABONG.COM

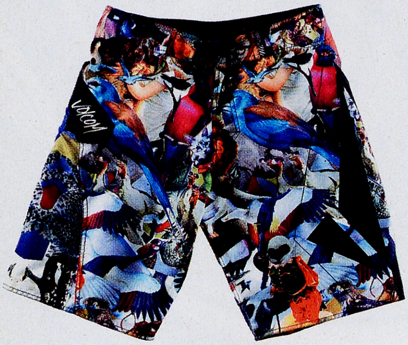
RUNNING THE OPTIONS

HATE 'EM OR LOVE 'EM, SHORTER BOARDSHORTS ARE HERE.

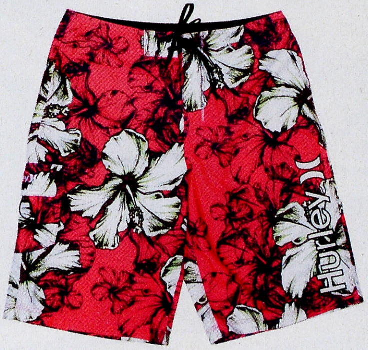


We do *not* recommend this style for everyone.

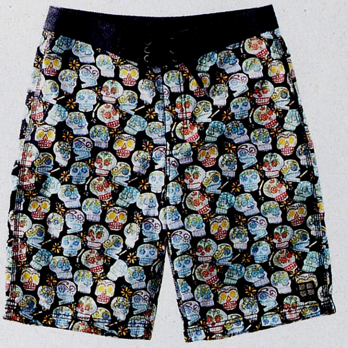
O'NEILL
$46, oneill.com



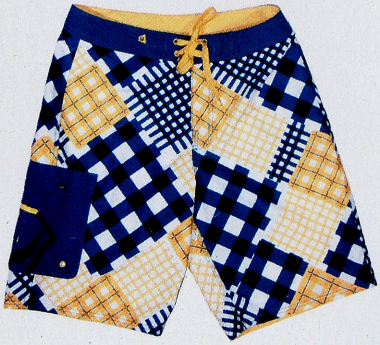
VOLCOM
$50, VOLCOM.COM



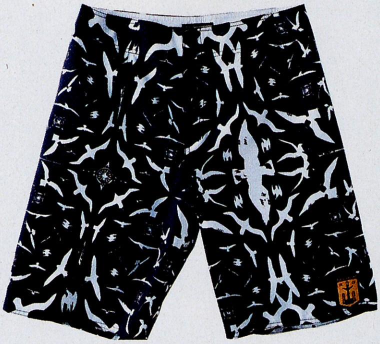
HURLEY
$50, HURLEY.COM



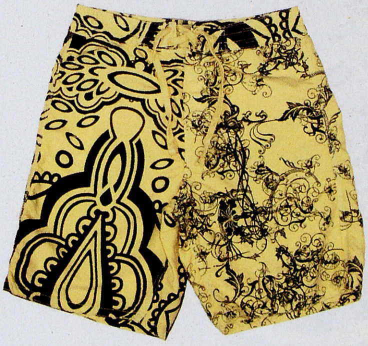
INSIGHT
$54, INSIGHT51.COM



REDSAND
$48, REDSAND.COM



ROGUES GALLERY
$115, DANDYROGUE.COM



HOWE
$110, HAUSEOFHOWE.COM

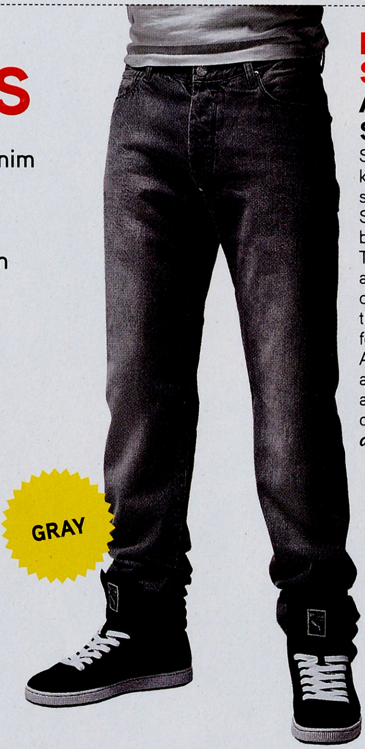
Illustration by KENNETH MARSHALL

Forty
VII
"Quality Clothing for Creative Lifestyles"
WWW.FORTYSEVENCLOTHING.COM

PHOTO BY: Thaddeus Brown

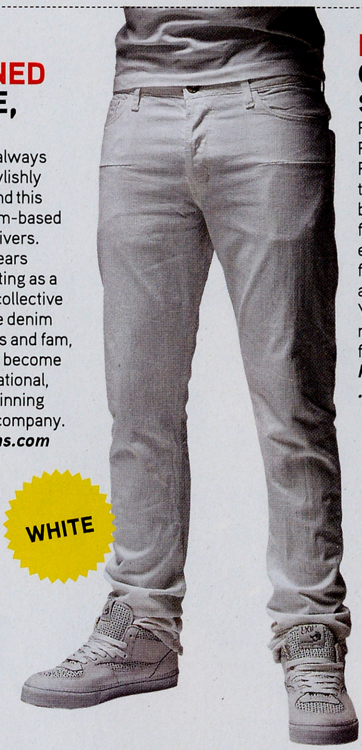
HOT PANTS

Summer means keeping your denim light, whether in color or fabric. Here are four Complex picks in different styles for the season.



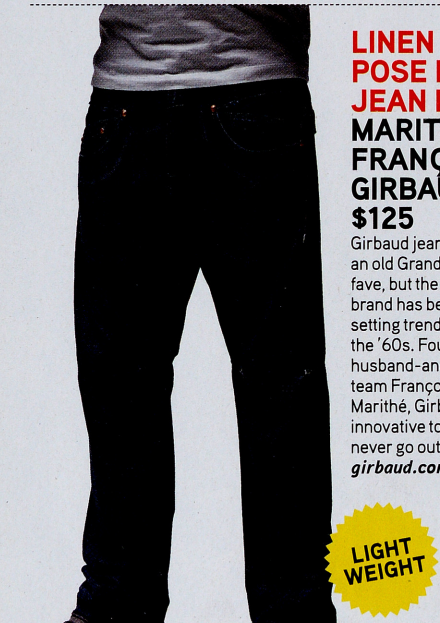
MIC STONED ACNE, $269

Swedes always keep it stylishly simple, and this Stockholm-based brand delivers. Twelve years after starting as a creative collective that made denim for friends and fam, Acne has become an international, award-winning clothing company. ***acnejeans.com***



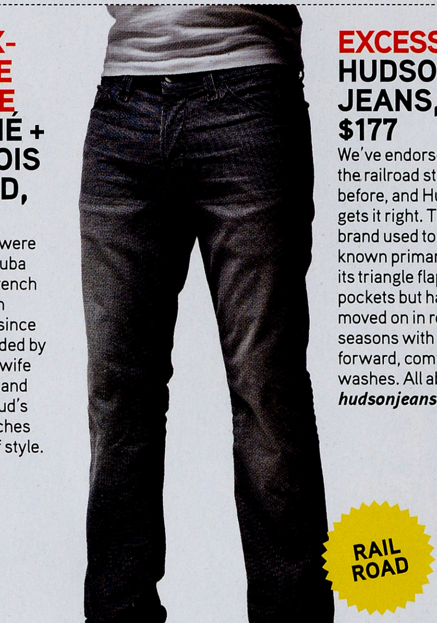
BETA SLIM CASSETTE, $255

Founded by former Puma designer Peter James Lee, this lauded L.A. brand rejects flashy graphics and embellishments in favor of clean lines and muted colors. You can't rock a mural on your ass forever, homeboy. ***houseofcassette.com***



LINEN X-POSE LE JEAN DE MARITHÉ + FRANÇOIS GIRBAUD, $125

Girbaud jeans were an old Grand Puba fave, but the French brand has been setting trends since the '60s. Founded by husband-and-wife team François and Marithé, Girbaud's innovative touches never go out of style. ***girbaud.com***



EXCESS HUDSON JEANS, $177

We've endorsed the railroad stripe before, and Hudson gets it right. The brand used to be known primarily for its triangle flapback pockets but has moved on in recent seasons with style forward, comfortable washes. All aboard! ***hudsonjeans.com***

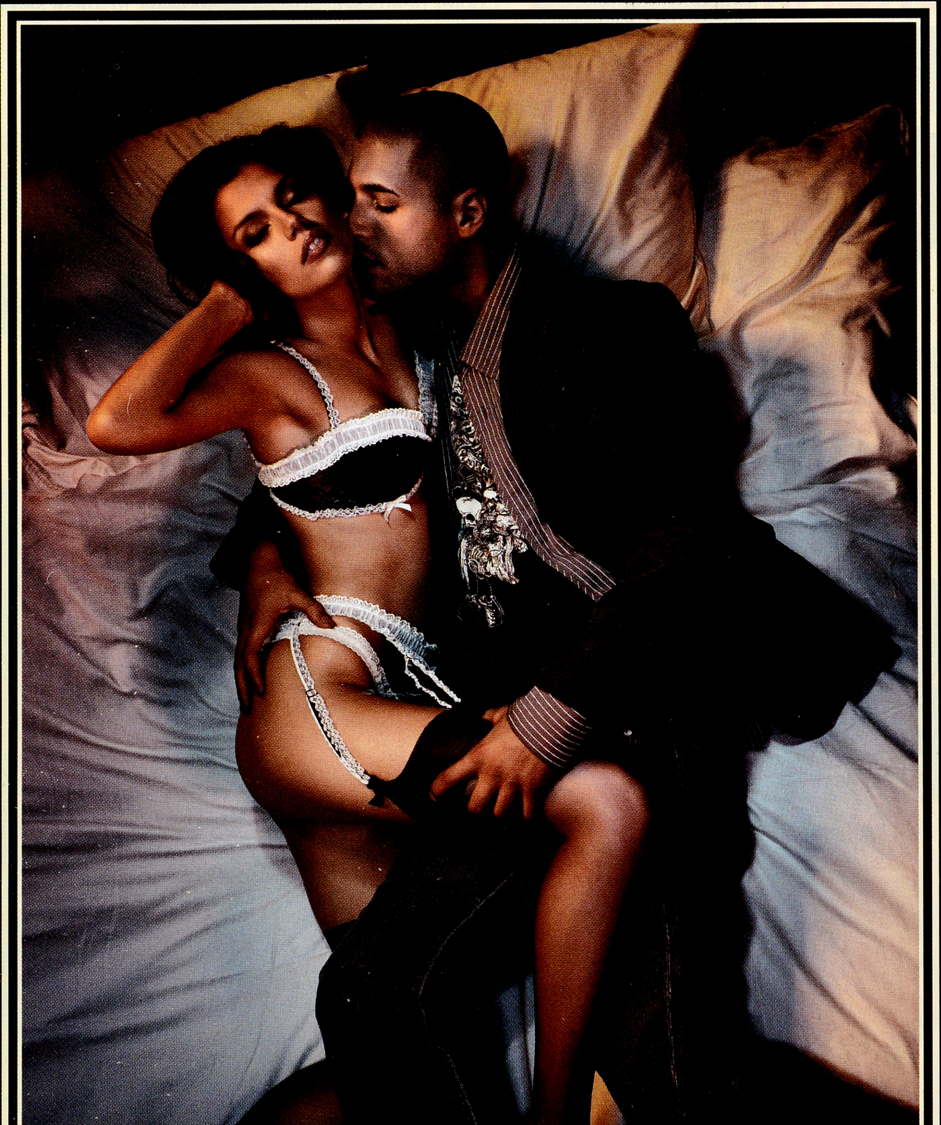
RUNNING THE OPTIONS

COTTON PANTS WILL GIVE YOUR DENIM A REST.

You may be married to denim but you still need at least one pair of go-to cotton trousers. Summer ain't summer without some fresh new choices.

ARMANI EXCHANGE, $98

Photographs by BRAD BRIDGERS



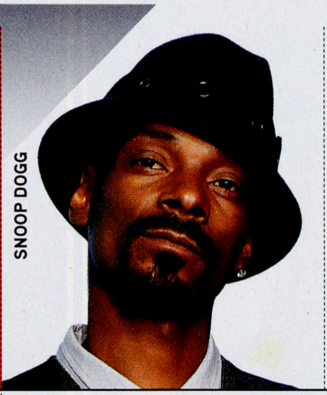
MARC ECKŌ
Cut & Sew

Visit Our Retail Locations
CHELSEA NYC • ROOSEVELT FIELD NY • FASHION SHOW MALL NV • HOUSTON GALLERIA TX
AVENTURA MALL FL • BRANDON TOWN CENTER FL • RED BANK NJ • MACY'S SELECT LOCATIONS
SHOP ONLINE AT WWW.ECKO.COM

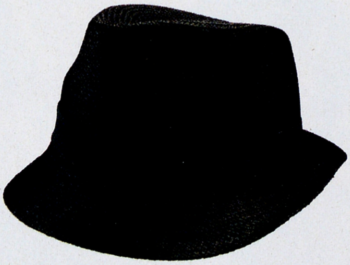
SCORCHING HATS

It's never too late to start a new era in your hat collection. Cooler heads will prevail all summer in these select styles.

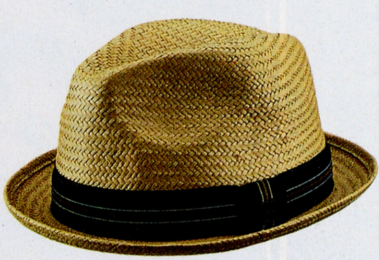
STRAW TRILBY



SNOOP DOGG



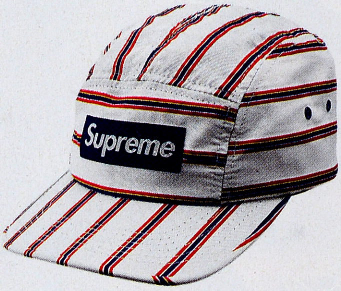
AGNÈS B., $188



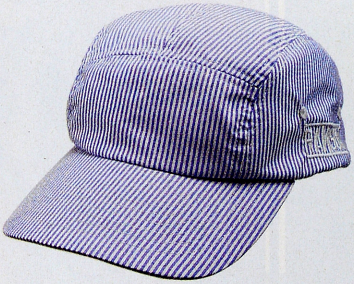
QUIKSILVER, $28

FIVE PANEL

ORLANDO BLOOM

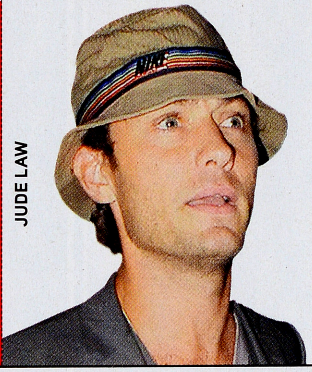


SUPREME, $38

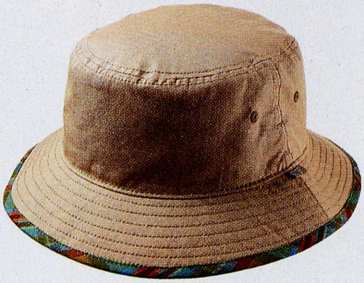


RANSOM, $25

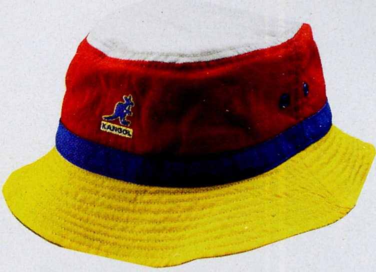
BUCKET



JUDE LAW



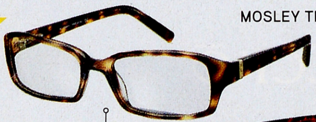
STÜSSY, $25



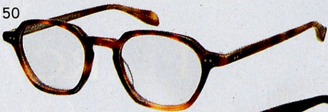
KANGOL, $40

THE COLOR TURTLE

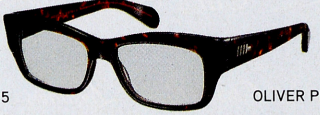
TORTOISE SHELL FRAMES ARE ALWAYS A SMART LOOK. SCHOLAR BACK!



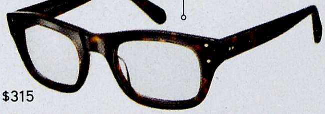
YVES SAINT LAURENT, $235



MOSLEY TRIBES, $150



OLIVER PEOPLES, $315



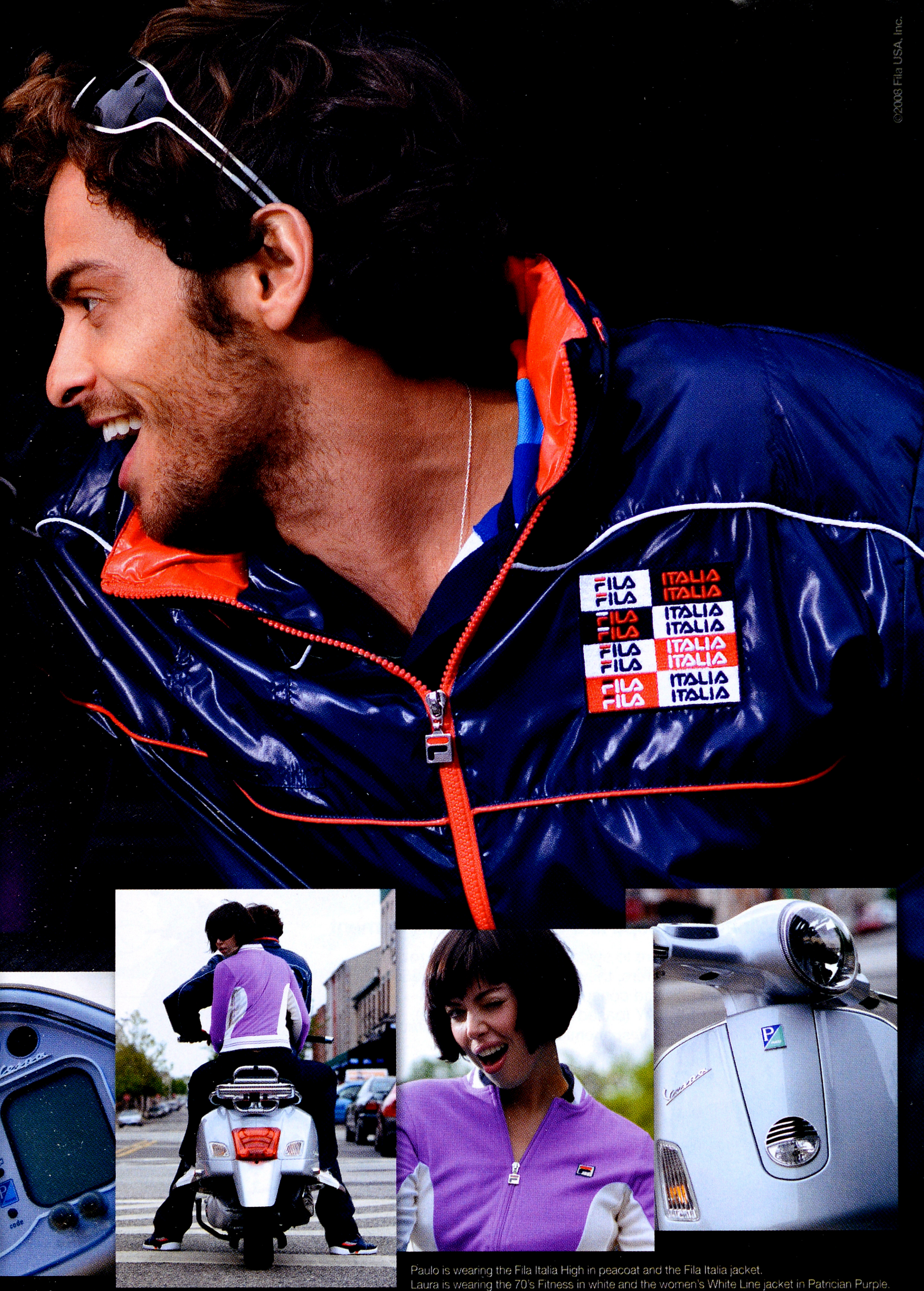
MOSCOT , $159

Photographs by BRAD BRIDGERS

FILA

HowDoYouFila.com

FILA
FILA ITALIA



Paulo is wearing the Fila Italia High in peacoat and the Fila Italia jacket.
Laura is wearing the 70's Fitness in white and the women's White Line jacket in Patrician Purple.

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How do you Fila?

Submit a photo of yourself in your Fila gear and you may win a Vespa Scooter and/or other prizes!

Go to **HowDoYouFila.com** for details.

FILA
ITALIA

CONTEST DATES:
June 6 - August 15, 2008
Two finalists selected every week!

Winning a Vespa is a Win for the Environment

If Americans were to switch just 10% of their total mileage to scooters, they would save roughly $50 million on gas and consume 14 million gallons less fuel PER DAY (based on $3.5/gal average).
Find out more at Vespanomics.com

Vespa VespaUSA.com

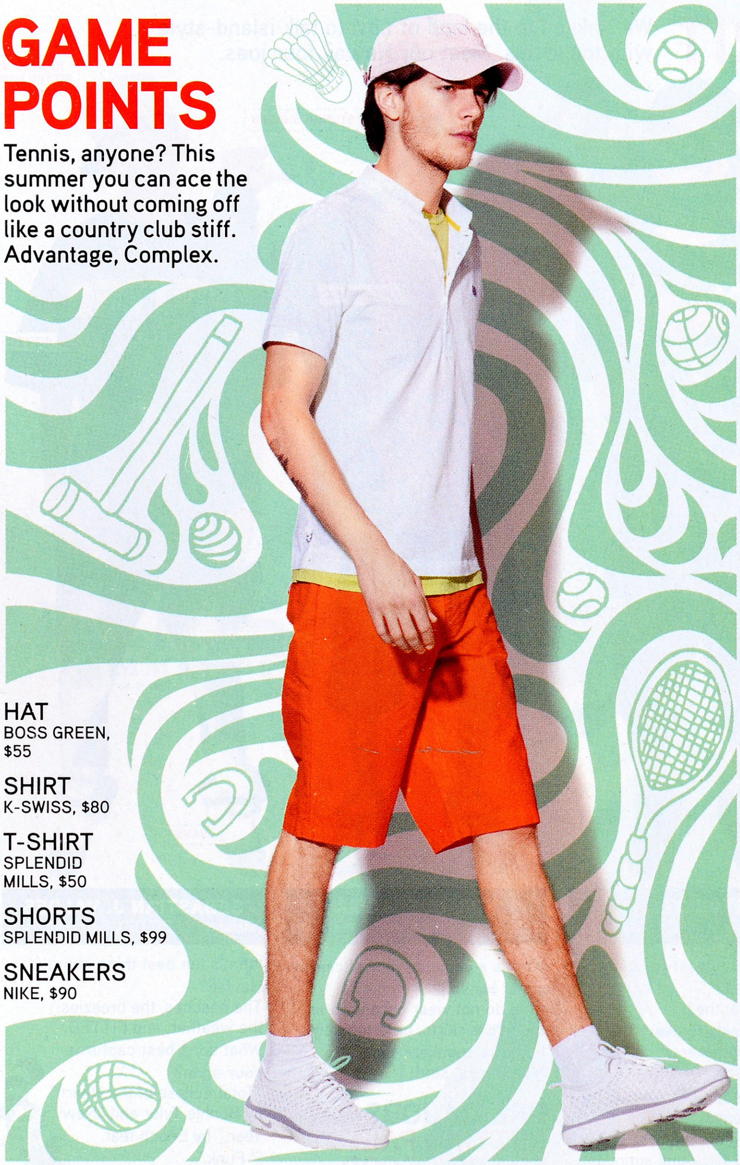
Vespa LX 50

FILA

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Fila gear worn in photo must have been purchased before 6/6/08. Open to legal U.S. residents 18 and older as of 6/6/08; other eligibility rules apply. Contest ends on or about 8/15/08. Official rules, including eligibility requirements, judging criteria, and prize details are available at www.howdoyoufila.com. One male and one female finalist selected each week based on public vote; Fila Online, Inc. selects two Grand Prize winners and two First Place Prize Winners, from pool of finalists. Grand Prize is one Vespa LX 50 Scooter. First Place Prize is $1000 Gift Certificate to Fila.com. Each week's finalists get a free hand held touch screen music player/internet browser/cell phone device. Sponsored by Fila Online., Inc., 1 Fila Way, Sparks, MD 21152. Copyright © 2008 Fila Online, Inc.. Fila® is a trademark of Fila Luxembourg S.a.r.l. ©Piaggio Group Americas, Inc. 2008. Vespa® is a U.S. and worldwide registered trademark of the Piaggio Group of companies. Obey local traffic safety laws and always wear a helmet, appropriate eyewear and proper apparel.

GAME POINTS

Tennis, anyone? This summer you can ace the look without coming off like a country club stiff. Advantage, Complex.



HAT
BOSS GREEN, $55

SHIRT
K-SWISS, $80

T-SHIRT
SPLENDID MILLS, $50

SHORTS
SPLENDID MILLS, $99

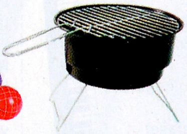
SNEAKERS
NIKE, $90

FUN & GAMES FOR A LIFE OF LEISURE THIS SUMMER.

DILANA LEATHER TRAVEL BAR, $125

CONRAN FIESTA CHAIR, $110

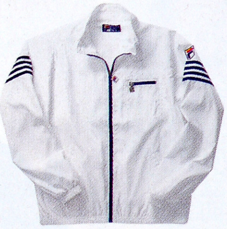
BOCCE BALL SET, $70



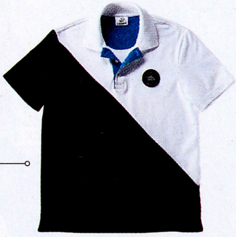
CONRAN MINI GRILL, $48

RUNNING THE OPTIONS

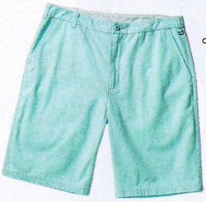
SERVING UP MORE TENNIS-INSPIRED GEAR: ONCE AGAIN, IT'S LAWN!



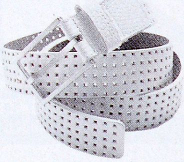
FILA WHITE LINE, $275



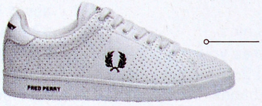
LACOSTE, $88



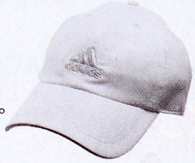
RANSOM, $65



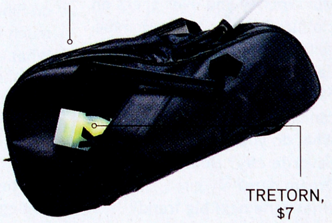
BOSS BLACK, $145



FRED PERRY $95



ADIDAS, $16



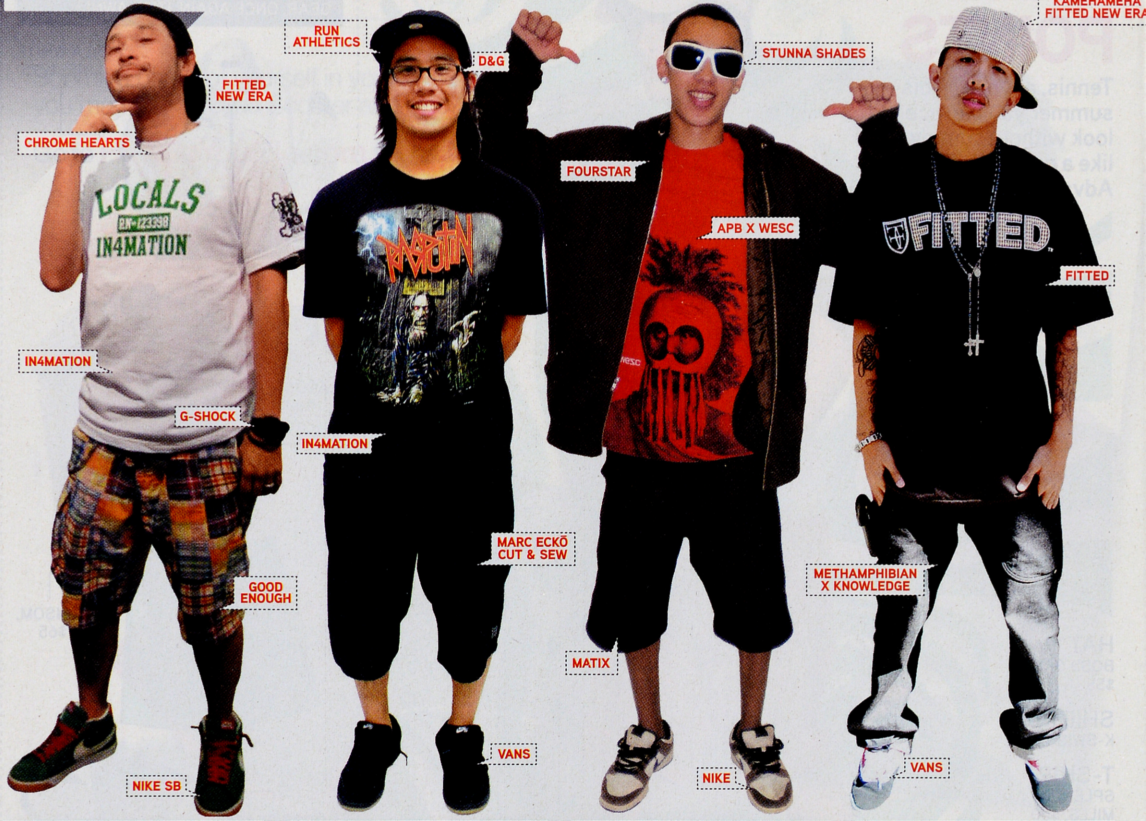
Y-3, $310

TRETORN, $7

Illustration by KENNETH MARSHALL

ALOHA SPIRIT

We trekked to the land of *Lost* to talk island-style with the locals. Meet our Hawaii four joes.



MASAKAZU NAGATSUMA
Space designer/architect, Tokyo

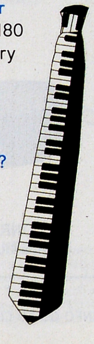
What's the best thing about Hawaii?
The sky is nice.
Who inspires your style?
[Designer] Jun Takahashi and Japanese bands.
What region has the best style?
London.

WHO HAS WACK STYLE? PEOPLE WHO HAVE NO ORIGINALITY.

Most money you ever spent on clothing? It was a Dior Homme suit. But I regret buying it.
Favorite website? Honeyee.com.
Favorite gadget? My digital camera, of course.
What do you collect? Toys.
Favorite city? Dubai.
Dream date? My girl.
What's the next big trend?
China.

RYAN OTA
In4mant, Mililani, Hawaii

What's your biggest pet peeve about Hawaii?
$2 bus...what the?
Favorite sneakers ever?
Sneaker, shmeaker... Wallabees, son.
What band captures your style?
I like the Stones.
What region has the best style?
Hawaii. Laid-back and simple.
Who has wack style?
Anyone who's wearing a full-print hoody in this 90 degree weather.
Most money you ever spent on clothing? $180 on Fiberops jeans, very much worth it.
What do you collect?
Swisher labels, piff galore.
Favorite tech gadget?
Puchi Puchi.
Item in your closet you most regret buying?
Piano-key necktie.



NOIL BUSCAGLIA
APB shop worker, A'ala Skate Park

What's a common misconception about Hawaii?
Girls do not wear coconut bras and grass skirts, unfortunately.
Favorite sneakers ever?
Nike Dunks, son!

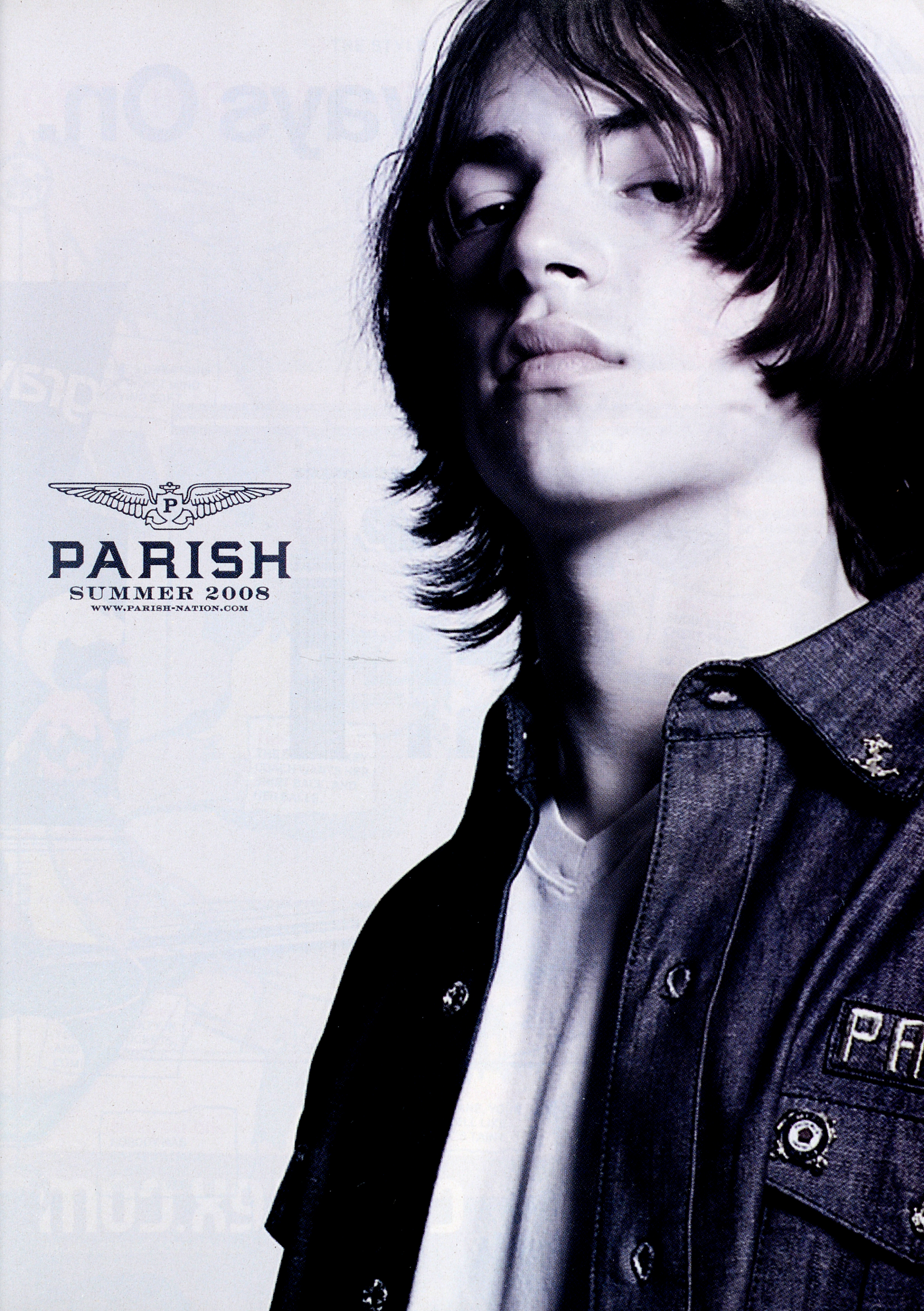
DREAM JOB? GETTING PAID TO LOOK GOOD.

Who has wack style?
Kids who worship Bam.
What trend do you want to see die? Those stupid wave boards with two wheels.
Favorite tech gadget? Gotta be the iTouch.
Favorite food? Fried chicken to feed the need, and pizza for my Italian side.
Most common statement about your style? "You dress like a hoodlum."
Last book read? *Skinema* by Chris Nieratko. Mad funny.

SEBASTIAN J. VALDES
Manager of FITTED, San Francisco

What's the best thing about Hawaii?
The beaches, the breezies, the weather, and FITTED.
What song best captures your style?
"Total Eclipse of the Heart," by Bonnie Tyler and "New Year," by Enoch feat. P-Funk.
Favorite sneakers ever?
Vans, all eras.
Who inspires your style?
Dr. Seuss.
What do chicks dig about your style? It's not so much my style—it's my boyish good looks.
Most common statement about your style? "Oh my GOD, it's Bobby Filipino!"
Favorite food? Sushi.
Item in your closet you most regret buying? Probably a BBC hoodie.

Photographs by TODD SHIMABUKU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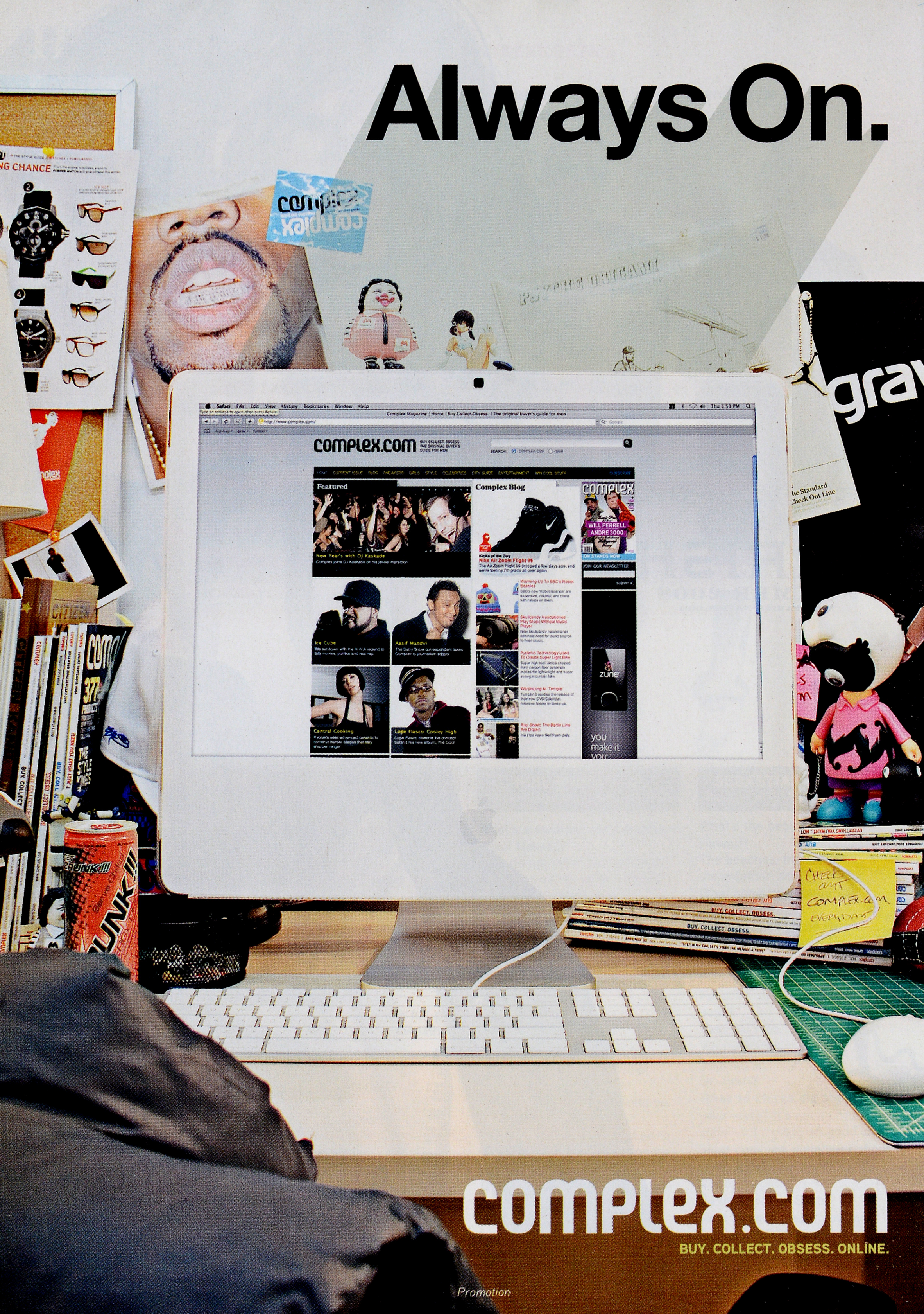
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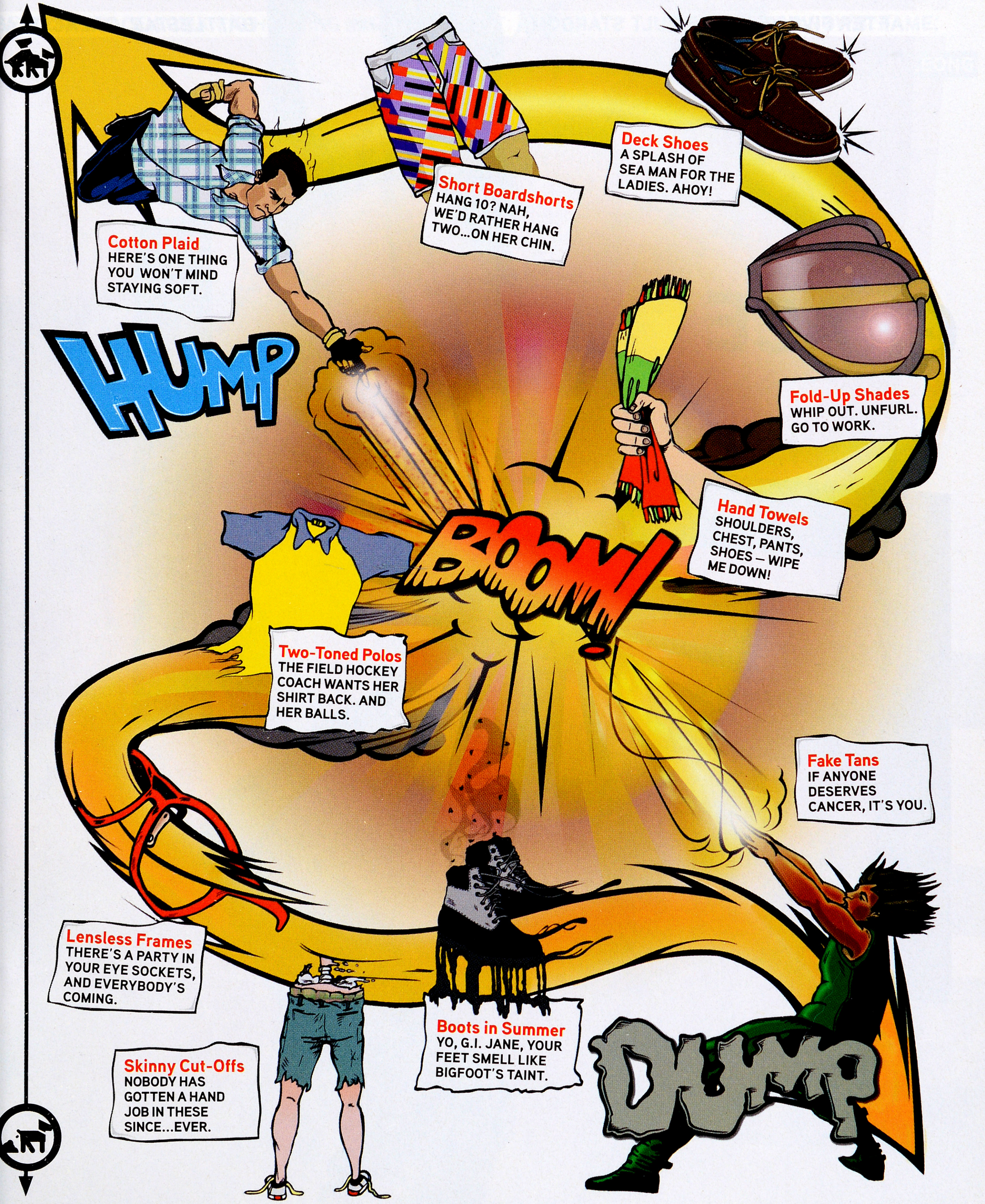
GETTING WARMER

It may be summer, but we don't take a vacation from humping and dumping. School is still in session.



Cotton Plaid
HERE'S ONE THING YOU WON'T MIND STAYING SOFT.

Short Boardshorts
HANG 10? NAH, WE'D RATHER HANG TWO...ON HER CHIN.

Deck Shoes
A SPLASH OF SEA MAN FOR THE LADIES. AHOY!

Fold-Up Shades
WHIP OUT. UNFURL. GO TO WORK.

Hand Towels
SHOULDERS, CHEST, PANTS, SHOES—WIPE ME DOWN!

Two-Toned Polos
THE FIELD HOCKEY COACH WANTS HER SHIRT BACK. AND HER BALLS.

Fake Tans
IF ANYONE DESERVES CANCER, IT'S YOU.

Lensless Frames
THERE'S A PARTY IN YOUR EYE SOCKETS, AND EVERYBODY'S COMING.

Boots in Summer
YO, G.I. JANE, YOUR FEET SMELL LIKE BIGFOOT'S TAINT.

Skinny Cut-Offs
NOBODY HAS GOTTEN A HAND JOB IN THESE SINCE...EVER.

Illustration by MATTHEW LEBARON

AFTER FIVE YEARS OF CULT STARDOM, *BATTLESTAR GALACTICA*

GRACE

STYLING BY ANOMA YA WHITTAKE

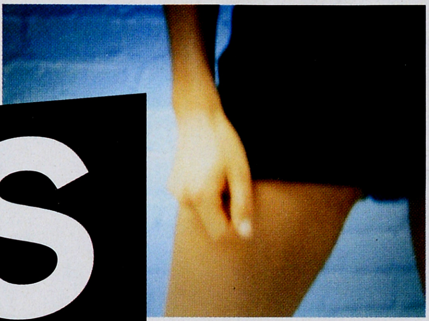
R E

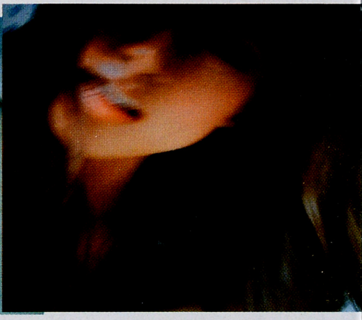
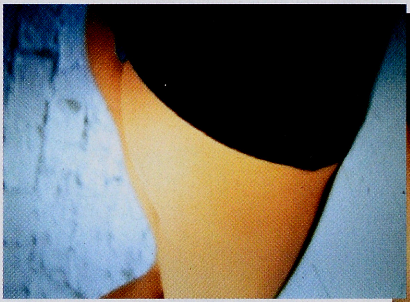
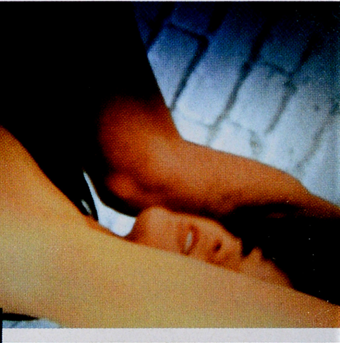
EXIEST SPACEWOMAN IS HEADING INTO THE GREAT UNKNOWN: FAME.

BY TIM LEONG

HOTOGRAPHS BY MIKO LIM

YES



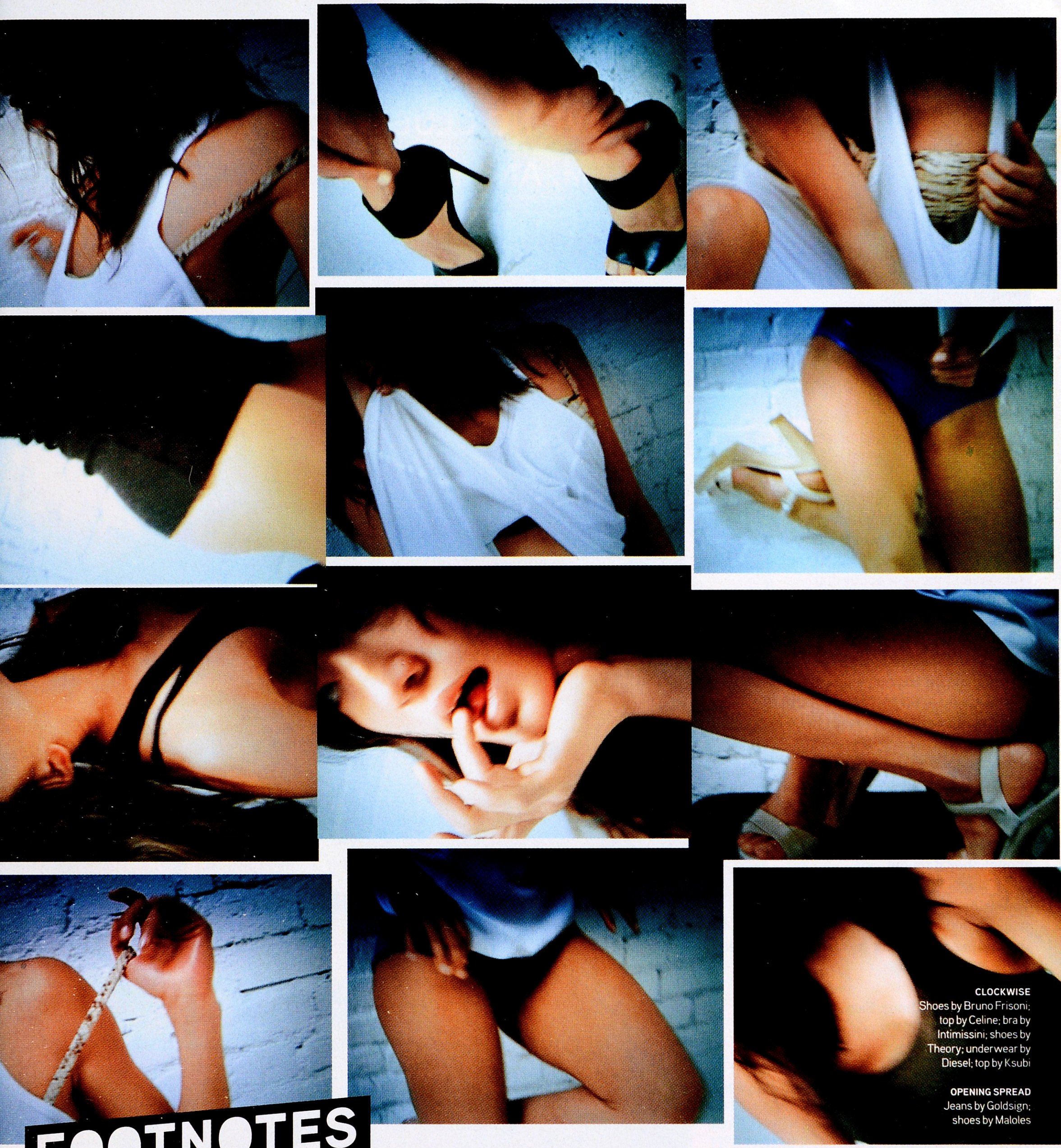
GRACE PARK HAS A BODY. SHE EVEN SHOWS IT OFF SOMETIMES. WE WERE SURPRISED TOO—ENJOY IT WHILE YOU CAN, BECAUSE THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE IT MIGHT NOT HAPPEN AGAIN.

And that's exactly what's so sexy about the stunning actress (you know, besides the obvious): Her rise in Hollywood hasn't left her Korean integrity[1] lying by the wayside. The girl sticks to her guns. And even though that usually means disappointment for our collective libido, we still respect her.

Already well-known in her native Canada[2], she shot to cult stardom in 2003 with *Battlestar Galactica*, in which she plays the robots-in-disguise Boomer/Athena[3]. (We hear you laughing—go frak yourself, it's a good show.) Right now *BSG* is in its final season, which makes this an interesting time for the 34-year-old beauty: What happens when the show that made you a star ends? (Richard Grieco, anyone?) The thing is, even though she's got another show starting in July—A&E's extreme intervention drama *The Cleaner*[4]—fame isn't the name of the game. For her, there's such a thing as "too famous too fast," and she's willing to put the brakes on acting if that happens. Keep your 100 mph Hollywood hoes; we're going to slow our roll and put it in Park. Well, not *literally*. You know what we mean. Reeeeal respectful-like.

The success of *Battlestar* kinda came out of nowhere, and now everyone on the show is a star in their own right; how have you dealt with the fame and fans?

One of the things I like about *Battlestar* is that we're a cult hit. We're not on *Lost*, and not every single person is pointing fingers at us. I went out with Daniel Dae Kim [Jin on *Lost*]—we hosted a show together, and we were sitting at some restaurant. And everyone that walked by would wave at me like, "Congratulations, you know Daniel Dae Kim," or "I know him too!" He's in a much



CLOCKWISE
Shoes by Bruno Frisoni; top by Celine; bra by Intimissini; shoes by Theory; underwear by Diesel; top by Ksubi

OPENING SPREAD
Jeans by Goldsign; shoes by Maloles

FOOTNOTES

1. Her Hollywood debut was "Asian Dancer" in *Romeo Must Die*. The director tried to change her role to "Bisexual Asian Stripper" and have her disrobe for the camera; Grace negged the nudity but did kiss another girl. *That's* a compromise we can get behind.

2. Grace first became famous on the Canadian teen drama *Edgemont*, along with *Smallville* star Kristin Kreuk. Canadian-Asian fetishists, rejoice! Yeah, you know what we're talking aboot.

3. See, there are all these robots that look like people, but there are only 12 different people they can look like, so there are, like, a gang of robots that all look like Grace Pa—you know what? Ignore us. Just go for a walk or have sex or something.

4. To prep for the show, Grace toured a drug-prone area in Vancouver and learned the Hastings Shuffle—the side-to-side wobble that junkies stumble through after a fix. More efficient prep: Amy Winehouse videos on TMZ.

more high-profile position, so he's dealing with the public a lot more. I love not doing that as much, just to have your anonymity.

Are you good with the public?

I think so. I hope so.

No fistfights?

Not yet. Don't mess with me.

Have you ever hit somebody?

No, I've never. [*Pause.*] OK, guys, but mostly in the chest.

Like, playful, or actually hitting them?

Well, the cover is playful, but really I try to hit them as hard as I can.

And they're like, "Oh, I'm sorry, did you touch me? I didn't feel that."

Then I have to pick them up off the floor.

"And then I gotta go pick 'em up at the morgue."

[*Laughs.*]

***Battlestar* was your big hit. And it's ending. Have you thought about that? What happens when it ends?**

I guess we see other actors and we associate them with one TV show, and then maybe you don't see them again for a long time. I've never really thought about that.

You haven't thought about that?

Thanks! Because I think what usually happens is that once you enter the machine and you get on a hit show, and it starts to end, managers, publicists start to say, "OK, let's get you on another show, it's time to capitalize on what you've got." But I don't understand why people want to be famous.

But you were a model.

Yeah, but models don't do it to be famous. They do it to make money.

Some people caddie, some people work at McDonald's; you say, "Oh, I'll just model."

[*Laughs.*] I think if most golf caddies could model, they'd model.

Point.

You want to make minimum wage or you want to make $150 an hour? And higher, depending on how big you are. Some of them make $10,000 a day.

Like me!

You? $500. Half hour. Easy. [*Laughs.*]

So you didn't want to be famous, but you are now.

To some degree. I know some people might think that, but most people have no clue who I am and I kinda like it like that.

Well, what happens if you get bigger?

I know, it's a conflict of interest. I don't know. I might have to stop acting.

You would stop acting?

Or I'd have to punch out one of the camera guys. Those are my two options in life, what can I say?

What magical pill are you dying for someone to invent?

Oh, I always wanted the magical pill that you could just swallow it and know stuff. So you could learn anything. Like, a new language.

Are you smart?

I'm pretty smart. It's like how you shrink in life, height-wise—that started to happen to my intelligence, sadly enough. Can't you tell? I can't finish some of these sentences. And then, of course, there's that phase where you could swallow a pill and have an instant tan.

I have no idea where that came from.

Do you tan?

No. Well, in the sun.

As opposed to in the dark.

I used to try and tan in front of a fireplace. Me and my sister. We'd put suntan lotion on, and then we'd sit in front of the fireplace. Our parents were there too, and they didn't even stop us. We just got really close to the fire, as close as you could without burning yourself. And then you get all flush and you're like, "Oh my god! It's working! Yes, you look more tan!"

What's the most illegal thing you've ever done?

I've done minor illegal things. Like lying at the border. Some of the other stuff I don't even want to tell you.

What happened at the border?

You lie about how much stuff you're taking back with you. Right? Everyone's done that. These are the questions that I can't remember,

"MOST PEOPLE HAVE NO CLUE WHO I AM, AND I LIKE IT LIKE THAT."

Top by Twelfth Street by Cynthia Vincent; shorts by Just Cavalli; belt by Theory; shoes by D&G

DROID RAGE

WE QUIZ MS. PARK ON HER ROBOT-FU.

1) YUL BRYNNER WAS IN WHAT ROBOT SCI-FI CLASSIC?

I, Robot?

Westworld.

Westworld is a movie? Okay. I thought it was a magazine.

Zero for one.

I'm just playing so you guys all feel smarter.

2) IN *I, ROBOT*, WHO DOES THE VOICE OF THE MAIN ROBOT?

Oh, wait. I heard about this. Do you want to give me a hint?

He was in the sci-fi show *Firefly*.

Shoot. It's not Will Smith?

Close! Alan Tudyk.

Alan Tudyk. He was on the tip of my tongue.

3) WHAT WAS THE NAME OF THE MAID ON *THE JETSONS*?

Did they have a maid? I thought that was a daughter. Was it a robot maid?

It was a robot maid.

How many syllables?

Two.

Molly!

Rosie.

Rosie the Robot!

That's OK.

Hey, I don't feel inferior because I don't know these answers. I *play* a robot. I don't need to know about my whole heritage. OK, let's go.

4) WHAT KIND OF ANDROID WAS JUDE LAW IN *A.I.*?

Umm. What are the choices?

...Male prostitute.

That's a robot?

Yeah. He was a "Gigolo Joe"...not that I would know.

This is my immigrant upbringing. Very little TV and movie background.

5) OK, WHAT COLOR DOES THE CYBORG IN *ALIEN* BLEED?

Green.

White.

Oh, shoot! That one was easy. [*Laughs.*]

6) OK, THIS ONE'S EASY. WHAT TV SERIES WON THE 1979 PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD FOR BEST NEW TV DRAMA SERIES?

Was it *Battlestar Galactica*?

Yes.

Yes!

7)WHAT WAS THE NAME OF THE ROBOT IN *STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION*?

Umm. Data.

Ding! That's it. I think you've failed.

[*Laughs.*] Failed. All I get is this T-shirt.

FINAL SCORE: 2 OF 7. *Hear that? That's the sound of nerds everywhere going flaccid.*

Bra by Calvin Klein; shorts by Lacoste; t-shirt by DKNY

then later you're like, Ahhh, of course.

Yeah, later you remember. Like when I killed that guy in Pasadena.

[*Awkward pause.*]

I, um...Now, before you got married, in relationships were you the dumper or the dumpee?

Oh, I was the total dumper.

What was your line?

"I just don't like you anymore." I don't know if that's worse, but it's really simple.

I actually feel a little broken up now.

[*Laughs.*] I know, it's OK. Now I'll pick you up off the floor. It's so matter-of-fact. It'd be weird, I'd be having conversations with people and they'd be into it, and then I want to go home and we keep talking and the next thing I know I'm breaking up with them out of nowhere. "Oh, shoot. Sorry. I wasn't planning on that."

Just very straightforward.

Yeah, it's not a big fiasco and it's not like "Let's still be friends." All these people are so finicky about it. It's not like you're doing surgery.

"PEOPLE ARE SO FINICKY ABOUT BREAKING UP WITH SOMEONE. IT'S NOT LIKE YOU'RE DOING SURGERY."

Unless you're dating a doctor.

Stop it! I think I was pretty cocky before. I didn't realize how cocky I was. Aren't we all cocky growing up? Until you get wiser. Or you get stupider.

Your brain shrinks.

Yes, it does. I can feel it. Rapidly. Ow!

After playing an officer and a pilot, do you find that men like a woman in uniform?

I don't think so.

You don't think men like women in uniform?

I think it depends which uniform. Nurse's uniform? I think a lot of guys like that. Twenty-pound flight suit? I don't think guys go for it.

You never know!

But some guys seem to like it. I have heard some guys say a woman in uniform is sexy. But I haven't heard it a lot.

Have you heard it about *Battlestar*?

Yeah, some people think it's pretty cool.

Is it weird when people say that?

No, because I've only heard it like twice. And it's usually Tricia [Helfer], who's usually in a red dress on the show or she's always in heels and the dress. She always wants to wear one of our flight suits or dog tags. But she's the one I always hear it from.

Do you think you're nerdy?

Dirty?

Nerdy. [*Laughs.*] Wow.

Exactly!

Do you think you're dirty?

You said "dirty"! And now you pretend. Do I think I'm nerdy? I can be nerdy.

That's a no. [*Laughs.*]

The Face of War
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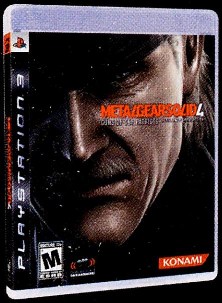

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JACKET BY Y-3 T-SHIRT BY MHI JEANS BY 55DSL SNEAKERS BY ADIDAS SUNGLASSES BY BOTTEGA VENETA

Photographs by **PHIL KNOTT**
Styling by **ANOMA YA WHITTA**

LANGUAGE

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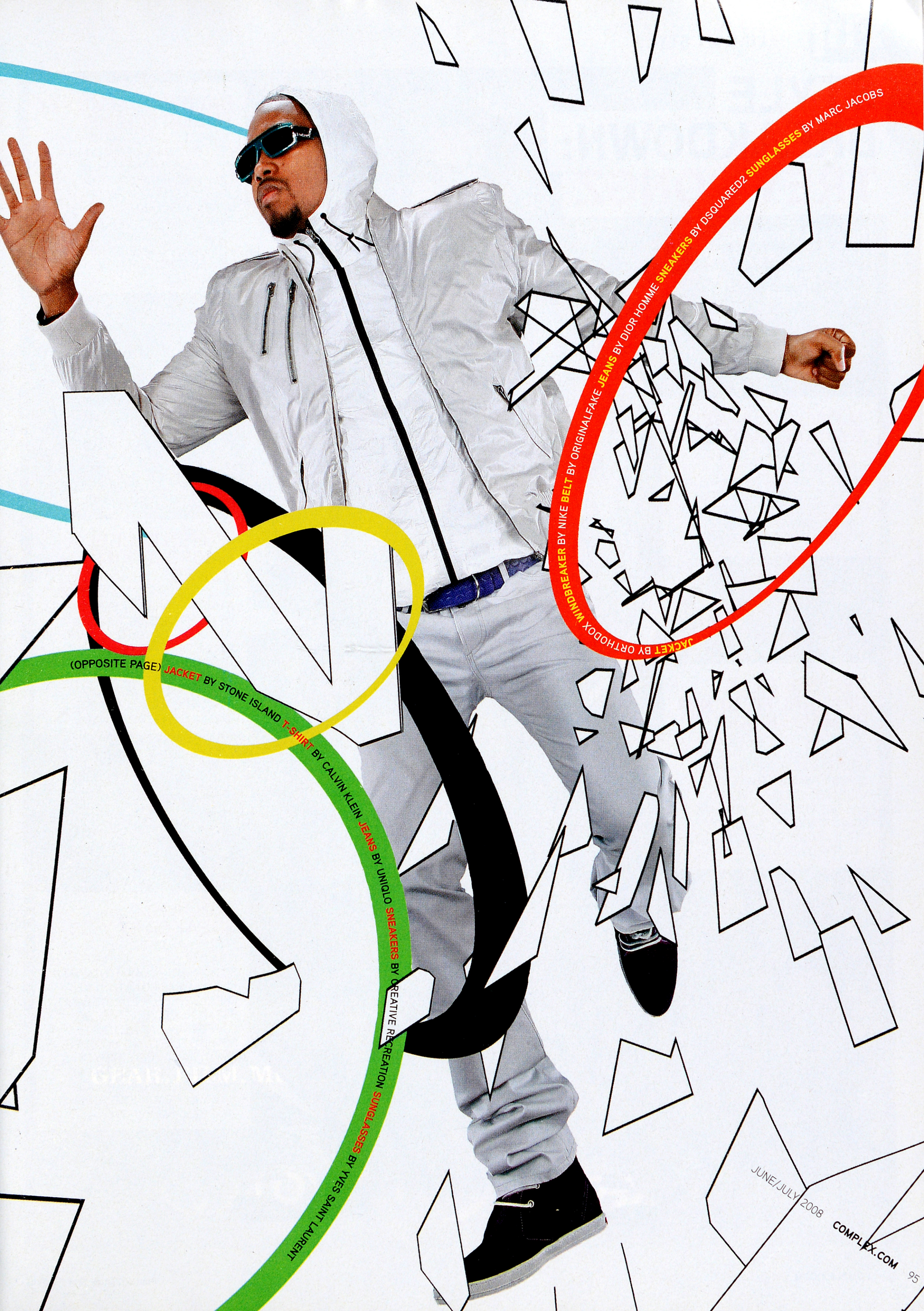
JACKET BY KSUBI **T-SHIRT** BY SPLENDID MILLS **BELT** BY MONEY **JEANS** BY LEVIS CAPITAL E **SNEAKERS** BY NIKE **SUNGLASSES** BY MARC JACOBS

JACKET BY FILA **SHIRT** BY MALO **T-SHIRT** BY RED CLAY **PIN** BY RICKY & D **JEANS** BY PRADA **SNEAKERS** BY D&G **WATCH** BY G-SHOCK **SUNGLASSES** BY MOSLEY TRIBES

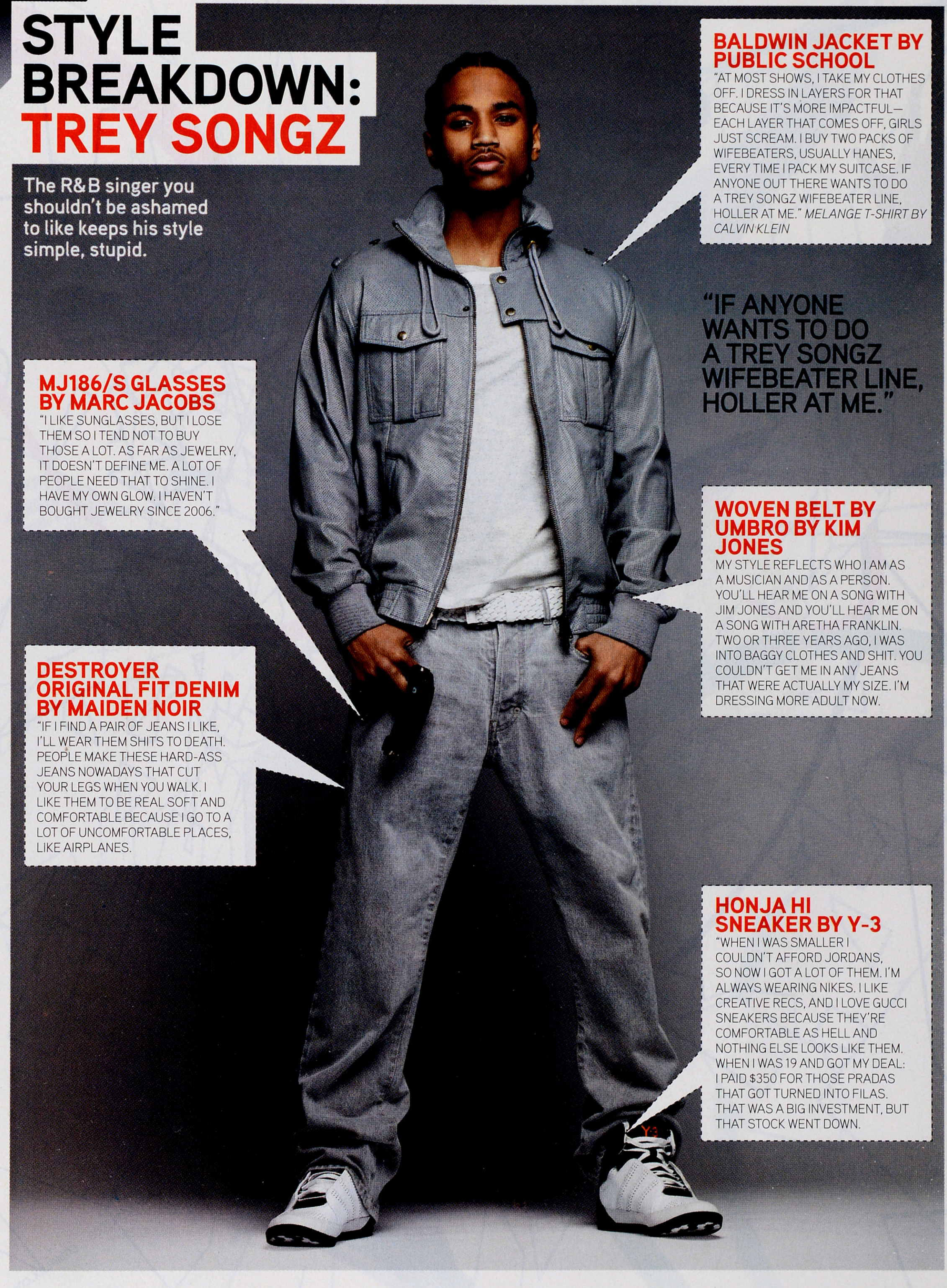


(OPPOSITE PAGE) JACKET BY STONE ISLAND T-SHIRT BY CALVIN KLEIN JEANS BY UNIQLO SNEAKERS BY CREATIVE RECREATION SUNGLASSES BY YVES SAINT LAURENT

JACKET BY ORTHODOX WINDBREAKER BY NIKE BELT BY ORIGINALFAKE JEANS BY DIOR HOMME SNEAKERS BY DSQUARED2 SUNGLASSES BY MARC JACOBS

STYLE BREAKDOWN: TREY SONGZ

The R&B singer you shouldn't be ashamed to like keeps his style simple, stupid.



BALDWIN JACKET BY PUBLIC SCHOOL
"AT MOST SHOWS, I TAKE MY CLOTHES OFF. I DRESS IN LAYERS FOR THAT BECAUSE IT'S MORE IMPACTFUL—EACH LAYER THAT COMES OFF, GIRLS JUST SCREAM. I BUY TWO PACKS OF WIFEBEATERS, USUALLY HANES, EVERY TIME I PACK MY SUITCASE. IF ANYONE OUT THERE WANTS TO DO A TREY SONGZ WIFEBEATER LINE, HOLLER AT ME." *MELANGE T-SHIRT BY CALVIN KLEIN*

"IF ANYONE WANTS TO DO A TREY SONGZ WIFEBEATER LINE, HOLLER AT ME."

MJ186/S GLASSES BY MARC JACOBS
"I LIKE SUNGLASSES, BUT I LOSE THEM SO I TEND NOT TO BUY THOSE A LOT. AS FAR AS JEWELRY, IT DOESN'T DEFINE ME. A LOT OF PEOPLE NEED THAT TO SHINE. I HAVE MY OWN GLOW. I HAVEN'T BOUGHT JEWELRY SINCE 2006."

WOVEN BELT BY UMBRO BY KIM JONES
MY STYLE REFLECTS WHO I AM AS A MUSICIAN AND AS A PERSON. YOU'LL HEAR ME ON A SONG WITH JIM JONES AND YOU'LL HEAR ME ON A SONG WITH ARETHA FRANKLIN. TWO OR THREE YEARS AGO, I WAS INTO BAGGY CLOTHES AND SHIT. YOU COULDN'T GET ME IN ANY JEANS THAT WERE ACTUALLY MY SIZE. I'M DRESSING MORE ADULT NOW.

DESTROYER ORIGINAL FIT DENIM BY MAIDEN NOIR
"IF I FIND A PAIR OF JEANS I LIKE, I'LL WEAR THEM SHITS TO DEATH. PEOPLE MAKE THESE HARD-ASS JEANS NOWADAYS THAT CUT YOUR LEGS WHEN YOU WALK. I LIKE THEM TO BE REAL SOFT AND COMFORTABLE BECAUSE I GO TO A LOT OF UNCOMFORTABLE PLACES, LIKE AIRPLANES.

HONJA HI SNEAKER BY Y-3
"WHEN I WAS SMALLER I COULDN'T AFFORD JORDANS, SO NOW I GOT A LOT OF THEM. I'M ALWAYS WEARING NIKES. I LIKE CREATIVE RECS, AND I LOVE GUCCI SNEAKERS BECAUSE THEY'RE COMFORTABLE AS HELL AND NOTHING ELSE LOOKS LIKE THEM. WHEN I WAS 19 AND GOT MY DEAL: I PAID $350 FOR THOSE PRADAS THAT GOT TURNED INTO FILAS. THAT WAS A BIG INVESTMENT, BUT THAT STOCK WENT DOWN.

Photograph by MATT DOYLE

"THE FOUR WALLS THAT MAKE UP THE
ORDINARY WILL NEVER HOLD ME."

"THE UNCERTAINTY OF THE UNKNOWN THRILLS ME."

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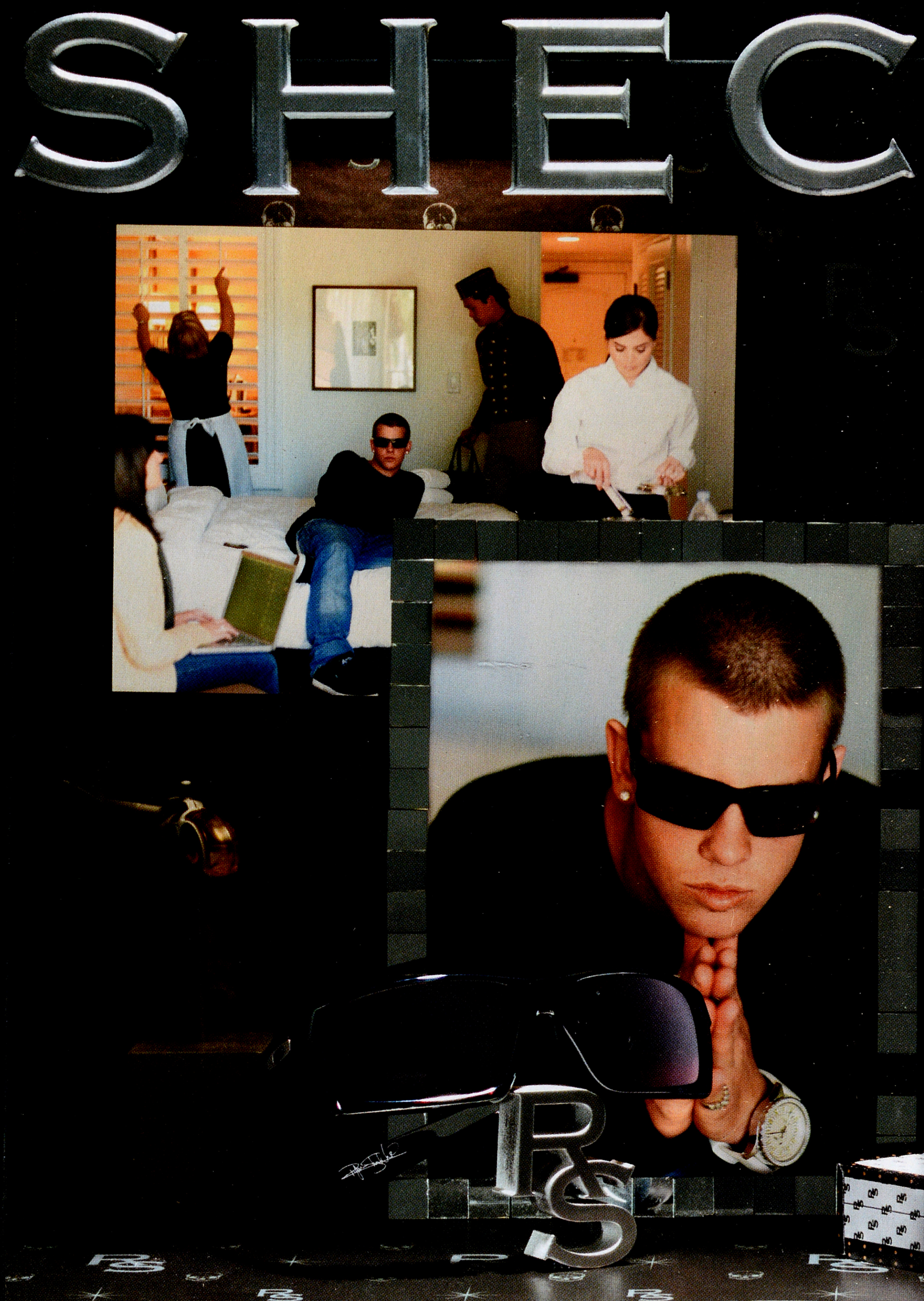

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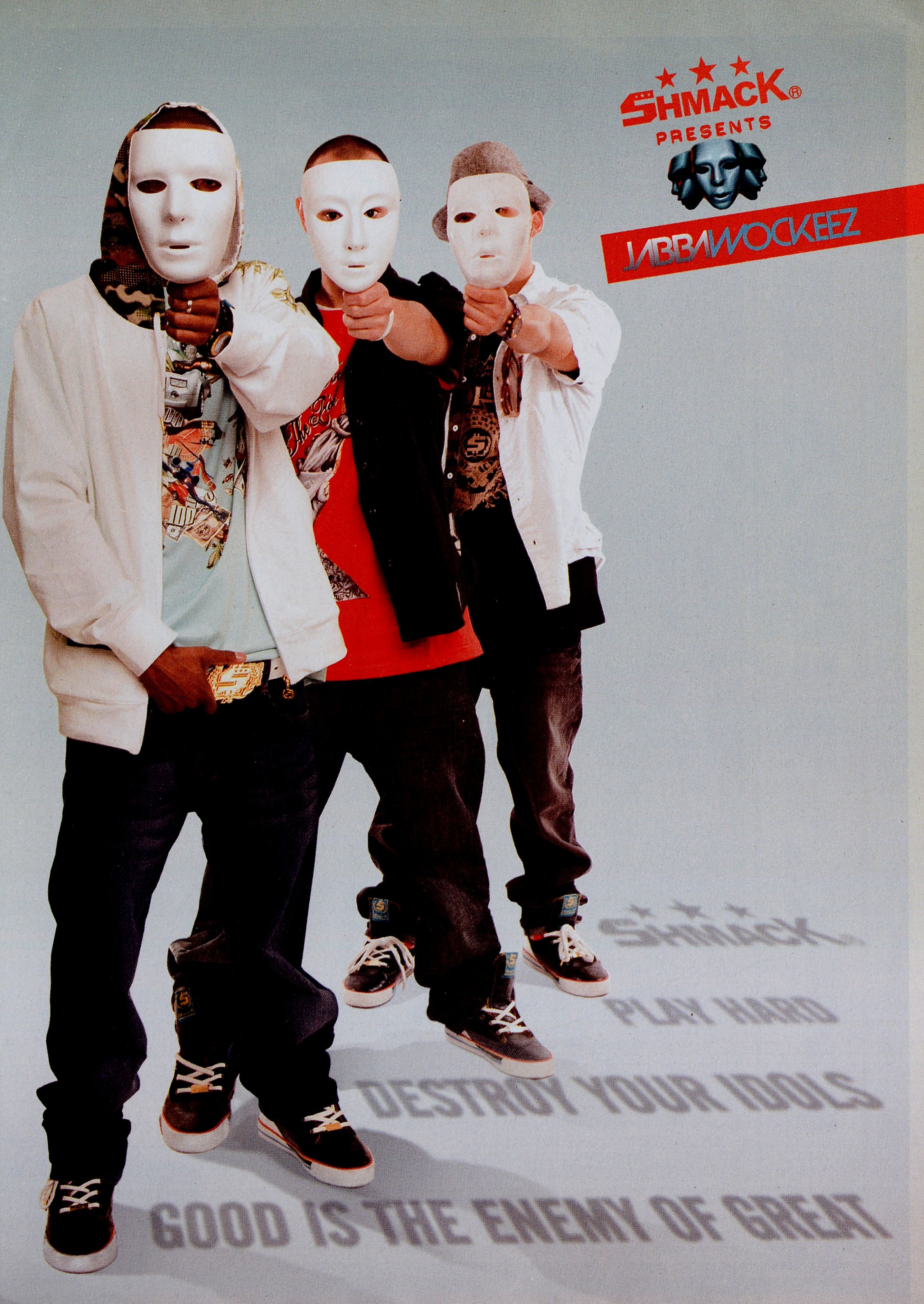
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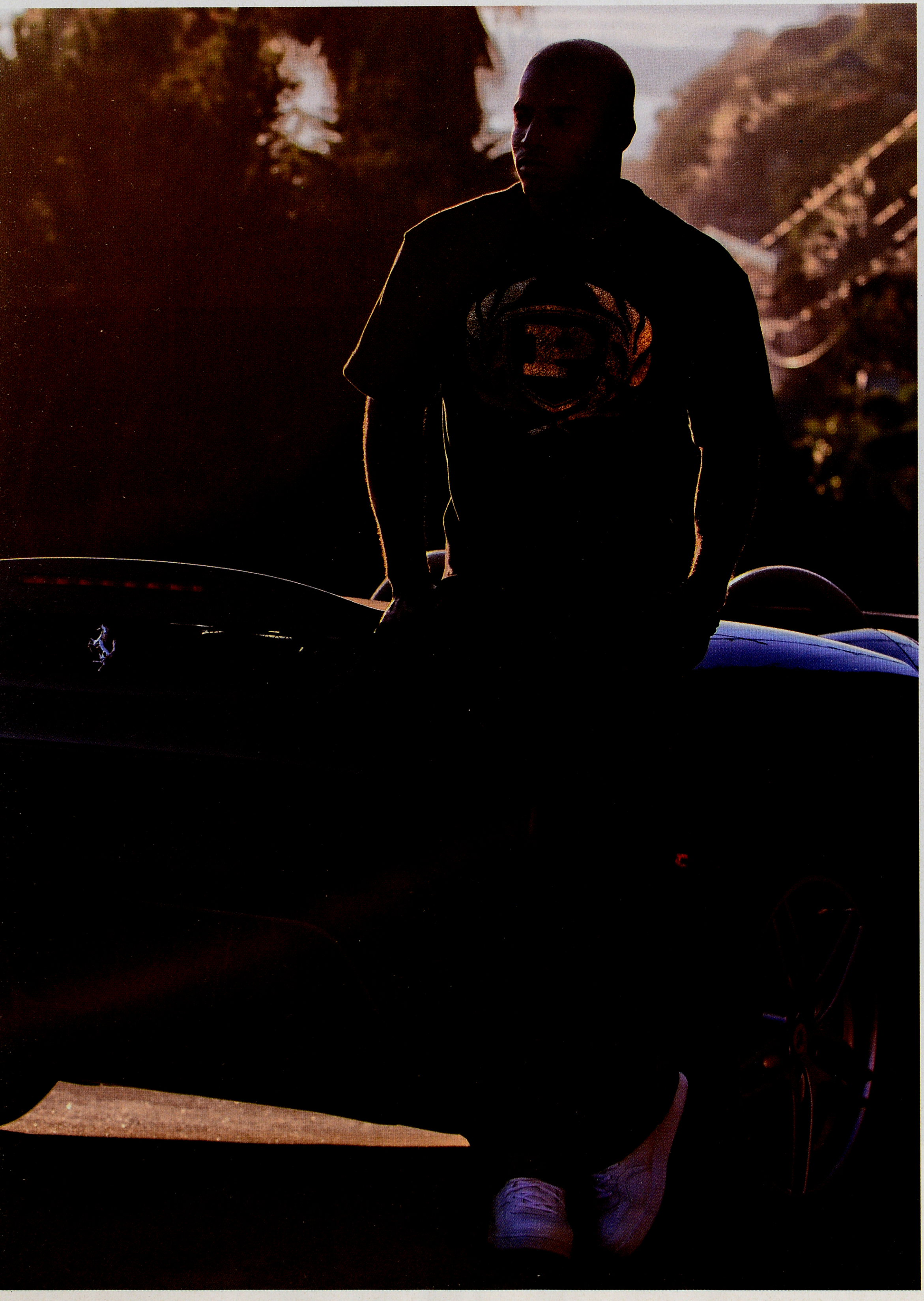

COMPLEX
AGENDA

ADVERTISING | PROMOTIONS | EVENTS | OPPORTUNITIES

REEBOK AND COMPLEX—SPORTIE LA AND TRAINING CAMP EVENTS

Complex brought to life the collaboration between leading footwear brand Reebok and the iconic drink Kool-Aid with co-branded events in Los Angeles and New York this past April. Held at the legendary Sportie LA and Training Camp shops, both events not only celebrated the collaboration between the two brands, but served as a showcase for Reebok's complete line of footwear and products. Sneaker enthusiasts at the events enjoyed complimentary cocktails courtesy of Dewar's White Label, a live DJ set from Hukkleberryhound (LA) and Complex's own DJ Treats (NY), Reebok give-aways, and more.

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BOSTON
Reebok
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PHAT PREMIUM'S OFFICIAL FALL RELEASE

Phat Premium's official release this fall is a collection not to be missed, and the true style savvy should definitely have these hoodies, knit tops, and jeans on their radar.

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SWOBO SANCHEZ BIKE

The Courvoisier and LRG "Pop-Up Shop" Tour celebrates co-branded designs personally customized by LRG while serving as a showcase for Courvoisier's newest marque, Exclusif™. In support of the Courvoisier + LRG "Pop-Up Shop" tour," Swobo donated one of their Sanchez bike models for the tour. The Sanchez customized bike will be up for auction after the tour ends on May 19th.

For more information on the "Pop-Up Shop Tour" check out cv-us.com/popup. For more information on the bike head over to swobo.com.

THE CUBAN AVAILABLE AT FACTORY413.COM AND OTHER FINE RETAILERS **ONEDIST.COM**

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The sickest summer sporting goods, Chuck Liddell and Travis knuckle up, bangin' BBQ recipes, Nike and Stüssy collabo, Trey Songz styles on you, and much more!

ON THE COVER

James McAvoy and Common photographed exclusively for Complex by James Dimmock. (Cover and this page) On McAvoy: Jacket by BOSS Black; shirt by Calvin Klein; tie by John Varvatos. On Common: Suit and shirt by Fendi.

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ON DISCERNING TASTE

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COMPLEX DOZEN

Twelve ways to live Complex in June and July.

JUNE 7

BLACK HOLE
CHARLES BURNS

MoCCA Art Festival 2008, New York.

MoCCA aims to preserve comic art in the face of Hollywood's schlockification of the genre. For more of the movie invasion on the comic book world, see **PAGE 62**.

JUNE 12

RoboGames, San Francisco.

Building robots doesn't hold too much appeal for most of us—unless they come out looking like Kelly LeBrock. For a breakdown of some more gadgets we'd like to get wet, head to **PAGE 32, flip.**

JUNE 14

Laconia Motorcycle Week, New Hampshire.

Motor-thuggin' just hasn't been the same since Ruff Ryders fell off. That is, until we copped a look at the bikes on **PAGE 34, flip.** It's two wheel for ya!

The Love Guru in theaters.

Meagan Good stars alongside Mike Myers in the latest mystic-guru-saves-hockey-player's-career comedy (OK, maybe the first). Ms. Good shows off her own one-of-a-kind talent on **PAGE 27**.

JUNE 20

National Hollerin' Contest, Spivey's Corner, North Carolina.

Southern belles compete to see who is the best at hollerin' and horn blowin' (word to Sasha Grey!). For more summer sports, see **PAGE 24, flip.**

JUNE 21

Wanted in theaters.

A pre-lactation Angelina Jolie schools James McAvoy on becoming an über-assassin while Common raps about unicorns...we kid! Check our Q&A with Common and McAvoy on **PAGE 52**. No boho.

JUNE 27

JULY 4

Schlagermove, Hamburg, Germany.

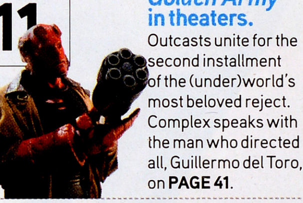
Copious beer consumption and 300,000-person sing-alongs make for a good schlager, but if you don't like Chumbawamba, peep our guide to summer entertaining, **PAGE 38, flip.**

JULY 5

Running of the Nudes, Pamplona, Spain.

Naked female PETA activists + Spain = one hell of a good cause. Running nude can take a toll on a body, though, so learn how to massage away their pain, **PAGE 36**.

JULY 11



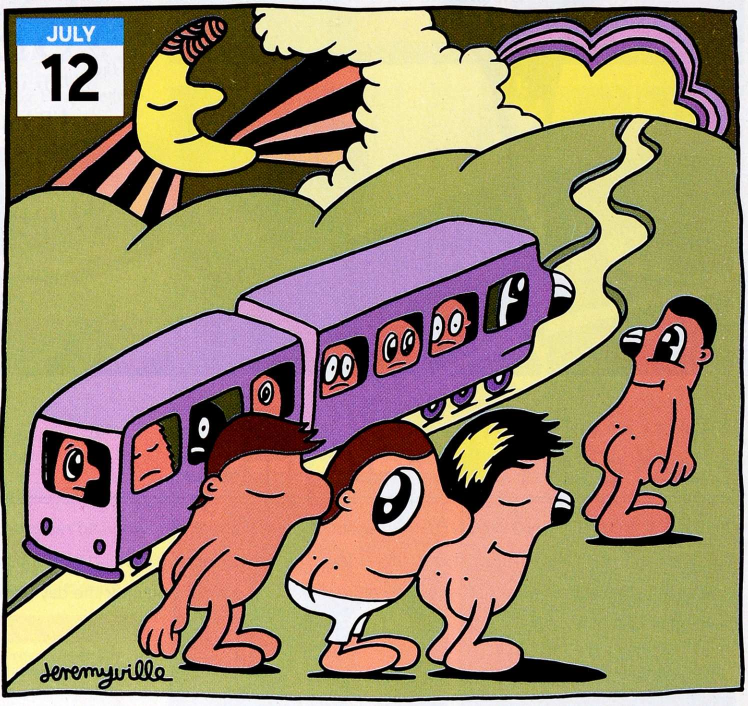
Hellboy II: The Golden Army in theaters.

Outcasts unite for the second installment of the (under)world's most beloved reject. Complex speaks with the man who directed it all, Guillermo del Toro, on **PAGE 41**.

Annual Mooning of Amtrak, Orange County.

SoCal jokers drop trou and tell the world to eat their shorts. See PAGE 68, flip for the Complex summer boardshorts guide. →

JULY 12



JULY 22

Kid Sister's *Koko B. Ware* in stores.

DJ A-Trak's boo shows she can hang with the grown-ups on her Downtown Records debut. Hip-hop's new favorite sibling (all due respect to Brother Ali) offers more family drama, **PAGE 48**.

Ai-Kon, Winnipeg, Canada.

Anime enthusiasts flock to this three-day convention to find rare manga. We'll stick to shops with counter girls in Wonder Woman T-shirts. Flip to **PAGE 74** for the best your LCS has to offer.

JULY 25

Illustration by JEREMYVILLE

(PHOTOS) 6/7: CHARLES BURNS; 6/12: © UNIVERSAL/COURTESY EVERETT COLLECTION; 6/20: GEORGE KRAYCHYK; 6/27: UNIVERSAL PICTURES; 7/4: ISTOCK P HOTO; 7/5, 7/22: AP PHOTO; 7/11: EGON ENDRENYI/UNIVERSAL PICTURES; 7/25: OSAMU TEZUKA

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EDITOR'S LETTER

Bluster in the sun.

SURE, SPIDEY HAS POWERS, BUT HE'S EMOTIONAL, LIKE CARL THOMAS.

OFFICE SPACE (Clockwise) Nate D. and I go postal; Grace celebrates her b-day with us; Tim asked Grace her sign...and then it got weird.

WELCOME TO CLOUD NINE,

a.k.a. cloud mine—the personal thought bubble of your friendly neighborhood J. Jonah Jameson. That's right, though I more closely resemble an S. Ditko-drawn P. Parker, growing up **I always really identified with his cranky, cigar-smoking nemesis.** Sure, Spidey has super powers—whatever—but he was emotional, like Carl Thomas. Jay-Jay-Jay Hova, on the other hand, had the most unabashed ambitions as a writer: Give the people what they want and never be afraid to switch your style up—an' if your peers hate, then let 'em hate, and watch the money pile up. I s'pose there's merit to Peter's whole "great power/great responsibilty" spiel, too, but to me, ol' skinflint was the blueprint.

However, I'm not the only one building a small fortune off of comics' architectural digest—**Hollywood's been drilling deep into the pen-and-ink goldmine as of late.** And thanks to this mainstream exposure, many of us who got sidetracked in our teens—by girls, graffiti, and gangsta rap—are now rediscovering our roots. Don't feel guilty—back then it was a no-brainer. Literally. If you read comics, all you were gonna get was skrull. (No *Secret Invasion*!)

But now we're grown, and so are comics. And what's more, they're increasingly hip (though still not very hop—save for MF Grimm). So as far as that primitive paradigm is concerned, it's clobberin' time! Consider this issue the wrecking ball, redefining what it means to be a comic book head. And nothing illustrates comics' new and decidedly more Complex face better than our covers. James McAvoy and Common are two young men representing the best of Hollywood and hip-hop, and bringing *Wanted*, one of comic's most compelling and contemporary offerings, to life. And though *Battlestar Galactica*'s on TV and didn't technically start between the sheets, Grace Park still gets mobbed like a Beatle in '63 when she's at Comic Con, so I'm counting her contribution to the overall re-branding of the scene. (For the record, *BSG* has been adapted to sequential art as well.)

To flesh out our argument, we put together a comprehensive package on Hollywood's summer of comics, including an exposé on the industries' mutual love-hate relationship. Plus, for no reason other than it's my personal fantasy, enjoy our ***Night at the Museum*-meets-*Clerks* shoot at NYC's Midtown Comics, featuring some rather choice ladies.**

Perhaps that was an over-share. Um... (*tugs on collar*) Is it hot in here? Eff it, Jonah wouldn't apologize and I won't either: I like comics and I'm proud. Now hey, you—get off my cloud. It looks like reign.

Noah Callahan-Bever
Editor-In-Chief

COMPLEX

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Vol. 7 No. 3 Complex (ISSN 1538-6848) is published seven times (Feb/Mar, Apr/May, June/July, Aug/Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec/Jan) a year by Complex Media, LLC, 40 West 23rd Street, New York, NY 10010. Standard postage paid. Postmaster: Send address changes to Complex, P. O. Box 420235, Palm Coast, FL 32142-0235. One-year subscription rates: U.S. $9.95; Canada $25; for all other countries, $40 in prepaid U.S. funds. We sometimes make our subscriber list available to companies that sell goods and services by mail that we believe would interest our readers. If you would rather not receive such mailings, please send us a note with your current mailing label or address to: Complex, P. O. Box 420235, Palm Coast, FL 32142-0235.

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HAVE YOU MADE IT THIS FAR ONLY TO BE LIKE EVERYONE ELSE WHO'S MADE IT THIS FAR?

It's the exclusive club that isn't. Those owners of identical luxury sedans who, in their sheer determination to escape the masses, become their own bona fide cliché. They look alike, dress alike and all make careers out of forcing themselves into that little 12-foot opening in the so-called fast lane. And then, there are atypical Type As. The anti-clichés. They are the proud drivers of the 2008 Volvo S80 Luxury Sedan. And there isn't a chestnut in the bunch. Why? Because one sit in the standard leather seats tells you you're not in just any sedan. You're in a Scandinavian objet d'art with subtle and yet profound differences of opinion as to what constitutes interior luxury. The seats feel and stay cool, with a ventilation system that keeps even the bare skin behind your knees dry and comfortable in the hot summer weather. Of course, when winter rolls around, the same comfortable system applies to the seat heaters. All while spoiling four additional guests in ergonomic luxury that won "Interior of the Year" honors from *Ward's AutoWorld.** Which, we are quite happy to add, is yet another point of difference. But to be fair, the Volvo S80 does have one thing in common with those redundant European sedans: power and performance (okay, that's two things). But with available AWD and a 311-hp V8 ULEV II engine, you won't be running with the crowd so much as you'll be outrunning it. And still, the S80 is all Volvo. Which means it also separates itself through the mere virtue of its safety technology. Allow us, if you will, an abbreviated list of distinctions (that any one of our sales associates will gladly embellish upon should you ask): Standard Dynamic Stability and Traction Control detects and prevents skids; an available Blind Spot Information System (BLIS) acts like an extra pair of eyes; and the available world's first Collision Avoidance Package keeps a safe distance between your S80 and other vehicles on the road – which, in a manner of speaking, you achieve simply by driving it. And if you're already part of that overpopulated club of luxury sedan owners? Well, maybe now is the perfect time to secede.

2008 Volvo S80 Luxury Sedan

LIFE IS BETTER LIVED TOGETHER

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INSURANCE INSTITUTE FOR HIGHWAY SAFETY

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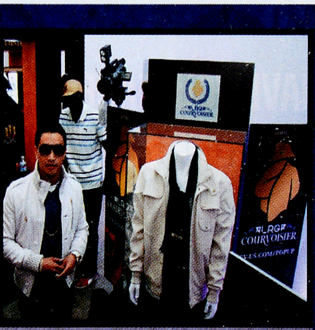
*The Volvo S80 was awarded the 2007 "Interior of the Year" in the premium car category.

Volvo. for life

VOLVO

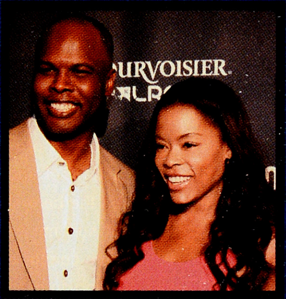
LRG
COURVOISIER

Complex Media brought to life the collaboration between **Courvoisier** and **LRG** with a co-branded retail experience called the **"Pop-Up Shop" Tour**. The first three spots on the tour were in Los Angeles, San Francisco and Houston. The events not only celebrated co-branded designs personally customized by LRG's co-founder Jonas Bevacqua, but served as a showcase for **Courvoisier's** newest marque, **Exclusif™**. The first night events featured a tasting and brand education hosted by Bevacqua and the local **Couvoisier** diplomat and was immediately followed by a kick-off party where celebrities and consumers sipped on signature **Courvoisier Exclusif™** cocktails, while enjoying the sounds of DJ Vice (LA), Mr. CHOC (SF) and DJ Cubeechee (HOU). The final two stops on the tour are Miami and New York. Check out **cv-us.com/popup** for more information.

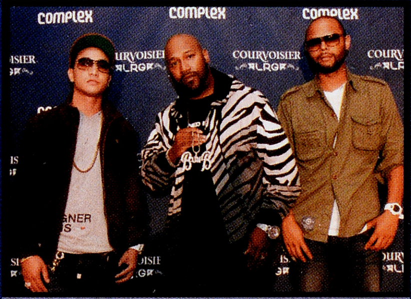

Jonas Bevacqua walks-through the CV-LRG collection

DJ Vice at the LA launch event

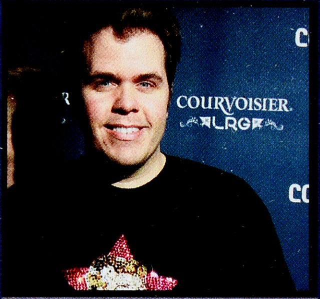
Stephanie Mills, MT Williams, Jonas Bevacqua and Allen Spence


Allen Spence with actress Golden Brooks

Omar Benson with Allen Spence

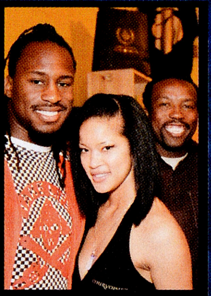


Houston Tour stop with Jonas Bevacqua, Rapper Bun B and Woodie White



Celebrity "blogger" Perez Hilton

Co-branded items— iPhone, iPhone holder, blackberry and Wii


NFL star Vernon Davis in SF

Rapper Manny Fresh in HOU

Jason Oliver, TRUE guest, Stephanie Mills and Kevin Delaney

Sprawl

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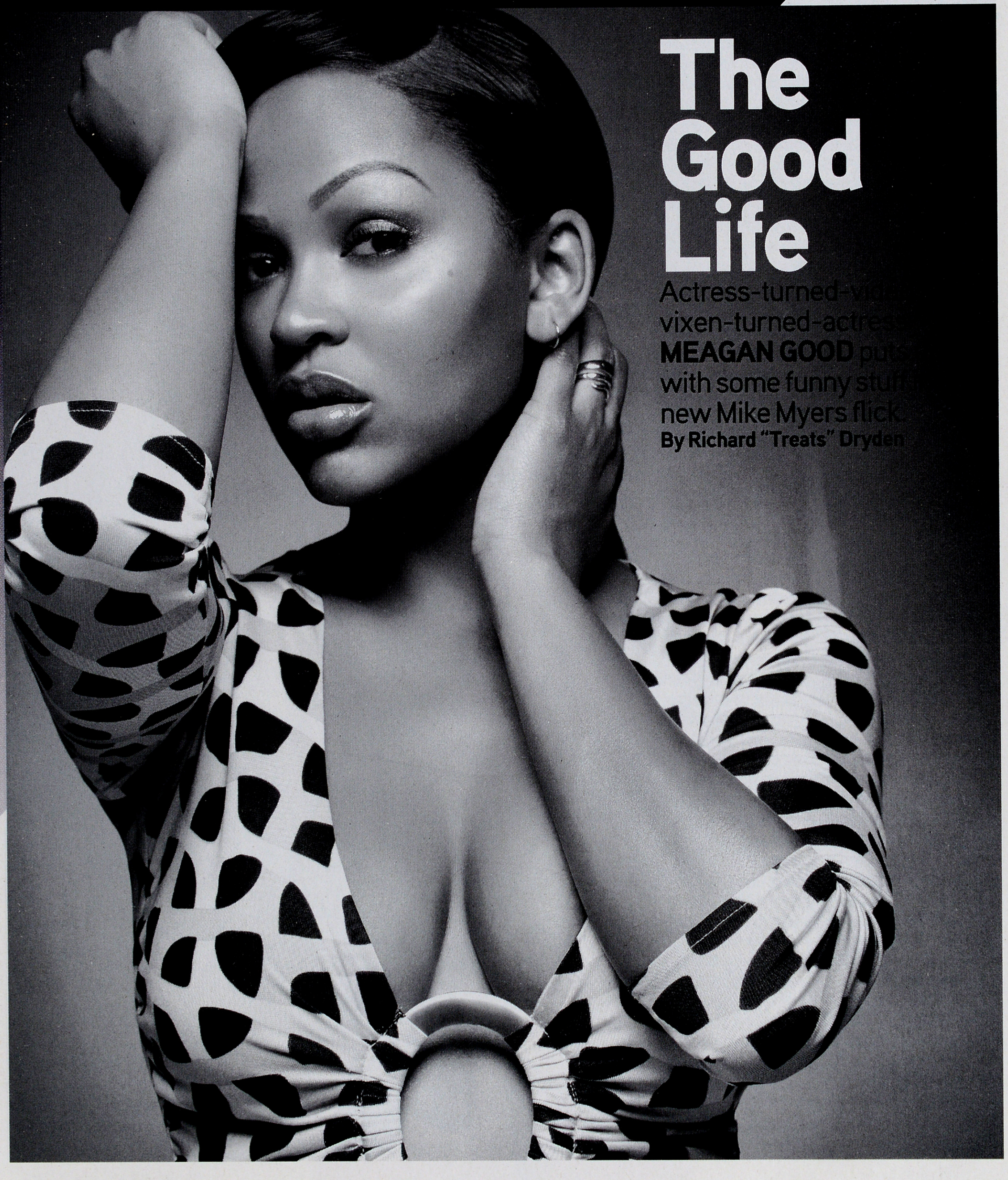


The Good Life

Actress-turned-vid
vixen-turned-actress
MEAGAN GOOD puts
with some funny stuff
new Mike Myers flick.

By Richard "Treats" Dryden

Photographs by DANIELA FEDERICI

Can you blame Hollywood

for typecasting Meagan Good as the Love Interest? Her deep stare and beckoning curves left crater-sized impressions in films like *Stomp the Yard* and *Waist Deep* and 50 Cent's memorable "21 Questions" video. Even in 2005's *Brick*, when Meagan stretched her acting range to include indie noir, she broke hearts on-screen. Now you can add funnyman Romany Malco and Justin Timberlake to her A-list of victims. In this summer's Mike Myers yukfest, *The Love Guru*, the 26-year-old stunner plays the wife of a hockey superstar (Malco). The role has its penalties…but at least there's the chance of making it up in the box. High-sticking ain't a foul around here, Ma.

In *The Love Guru* you play the wife of a hockey player. Were you able to relate?
I can relate in the sense that he left her. He left because of his feelings of inadequacy. He felt he wasn't going to win the World Cup—

You mean the Stanley Cup?
Yes, the Stanley Cup. [*Laughs.*] That's the one.

I take it you're not a huge hockey fan.
Ehhh…I follow boxing a little bit.

Do you get frustrated when people forget about your previous acting and just peg you as a video vixen?
A lot of people ask me "How do you make the transition from video girl to actress?" It's a little frustrating because I was acting before I did videos. But if somebody knows me as a video vixen, I'm not mad at that at all.

Is Hollywood taking you more seriously now?
Yeah. It's been a long time coming, but it's good. I feel like I paid my dues.

As far as movies go, what's your take on nudity in films?
If it's done artistically, and it's necessary for the scene, that's one thing. But when people show full on breasts and A-S-S, it's just shock value.

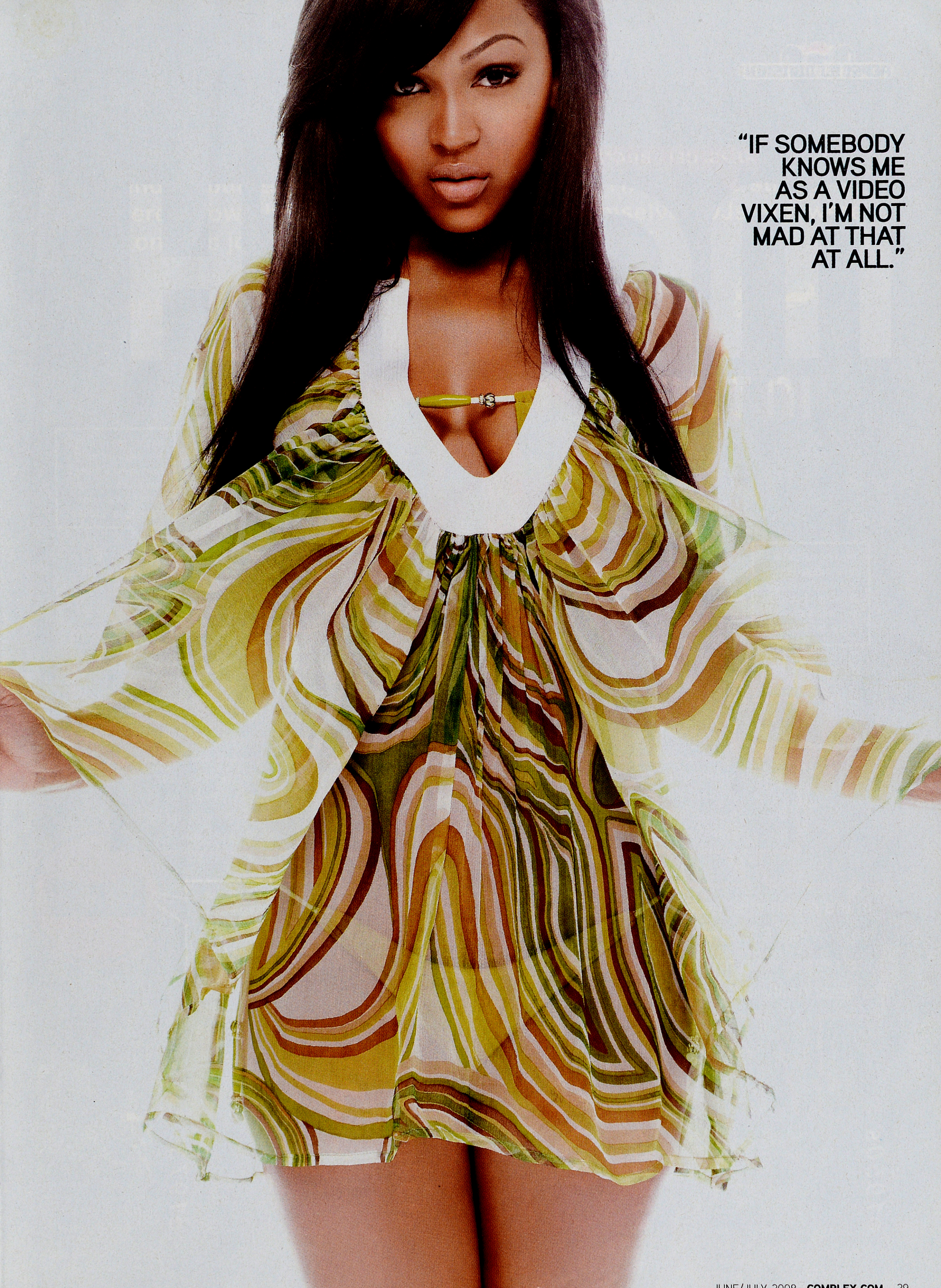
Of course, some people really like A-S-S. But I guess that means you're not looking to get back into videos.
As of right now, I don't see myself doing a music video for a long time. I have offers but at this point in my life I don't want people to only look at me as a sex kitten.

Well, you'll be missed.
I don't know, I'd consider being a backup dancer in a Britney Spears video.

Really?! Britney now?
I hope and pray she gets it together. I love her. I would do anything. I'd be like "Gimme, gimme more!"

Sign me up!

(STYLING) MONICA ROSE FOR THE REX AGENCY. (HAIR) RANDY STODGHILL FOR EXCLUSIVE ARTISTS/BIOLAGE. (MAKEUP) GARRET GERVAIS FOR MARGARETMALDONADO.COM USING M.A.C. COSMETICS. (LOCATION) SIREN



"IF SOMEBODY KNOWS ME AS A VIDEO VIXEN, I'M NOT MAD AT THAT AT ALL."

PEPSI DJ DIVISION

PEPSI CELEBRATES THE DJ IN AUGUST 2008

MONTH IN THE MIX

CASSETTES HOUSED THE ORIGINAL MIX TAPES WHICH WERE A WAY FOR DJs TO GET NOTICED AND AND MAKE SOME SCRILLA.

THE BOOM-BOX OR GHETTOBLASTER BECAME PROMINENT IN HIP-HOP CULTURE AND WAS A SIGN OF ECONOMIC POWER.

Join us as we pay respect to the unsung heroes of music—the DJs. Through their command of radio, clubs, parties, and mixtapes, DJs determine which songs become hits and which artists become superstars.

Beyond spinning records, DJs have become viable hitmakers, genre creators, and artists in their own right—complete with hardcore fans and sold-out venues. Throughout the month of August, Pepsi will honor DJs for their contribution to urban culture and the global music scene. Check back next issue to meet the DJs who not only make up the Pepsi DJ Division, but are also shaping today's musical landscape.

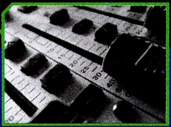
THE BEATS WE HEAR TODAY BEGAN AS SHORT SONG SECTIONS CALLED BREAKS, AND SLOWLY DEVELOPED INTO MODERN HIP HOP BEATS.

In the meantime, here's a primer on how the DJ went from being the person who rocks the party to a personality in his own right.

1950s

Sound systems, or public dance parties, are thrown in the ghettos of Kingston, Jamaica by record-playing *selectors*.

1960s



Specialized DJ equipment such as the classic CMA-10-2DL mixer begin to appear, leading to *beatmatching*.

1969

Beatmatching, the technique of creating seamless transitions between back-to-back records with matching beats, is introduced at the NYC club Sanctuary.

1973

Turntablism, the art of using turntables not only to play music, but to also manipulate sound and create original music, begins to develop at block parties in the Bronx, NYC.

The evolution of the modern DJ is rooted in the 1950s Kingston, Jamaica ghettos and its burgeoning sound system scene. These large street parties were thrown by promoters who called themselves DJs, but were centered on disc jockeys who were called "selectors."

VINYL

The next revolution was the appearance of the 12" vinyl record from the standard 7". No longer were singles limited to three minutes and this new format, aimed specifically at club and mixshow DJs, heralded the art of modern deejaying.

EQUIPMENT

In the '70s, dedicated DJ equipment like the CMA-10-2DL mixer ushered in the technique of beatmatching, or seamlessly blending two records. The '70s were not only important for the start of two DJ-driven genres—disco and hip-hop—but for technological advances as well.

DISCO BREAKIN'

Although they belong to separate genres, hip-hop owes much to disco, as park jams and block parties were the answer to those not deemed glittery enough to pass through the red ropes of NYC's preeminent discotheques. These parties were where the art of turntablism was born.

> "I believe that the DJ is the foot soldier that works hand-in-hand with the artist to get the music out to the public." **Grandmaster Flash**

As big as hip-hop is today, disco had a more profound initial effect on DJ culture. If disco was a religion, the nightclub was the church and the DJ was minister. But disco's popularity waned by the '80s, making way for other dance genres—like Detroit techno and Chicago house music—where the DJ was king.

DJs had finally broken through, charting hits, mounting tours, and elevating their status as marketable brands, as well as legitimate musical icons...

> "The DJ was the first element of hip-hop; it discovered and made the hip-hop artist. Without the DJ, the album gets put out and sits on the shelves. The DJ is the one who takes it to the street and puts it in people's heads." **Kid Capri**

1977

Disco music emerges and the *Disco Bible* publishes beats-per-minute (BPM) of songs, allowing DJs to seamlessly match tempos.

1980s

House, Techno, Electronic and most-importantly, hip-hop music all gain massive followings, largely on the strength and talents of DJs.

1990s

The rave scene creates the first superstar DJs who become artists based on both their turntable skills and marketing power.

1998

The MP3 music file is developed, launching a digital DJ revolution and eliminating the need for vinyl records.

PEPSI DJ DIVISION
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WWW.PEPSIDJDIVISION.COM

THE TRIFEY ETHICIST

HALF HYPEBEAST, HALF SIDEPIECE, TRIFEY ANSWERS YOUR VEXING MORAL DILEMMAS.

Dear Trife,
I went to spring break in Cancun and think I might've put my beef in the wrong taco, 'cause my sour cream is looking a little like guacamole. Can I keep it under wraps if I keep it wrapped?
Minut Sarhooj, Pittsburgh, PA

No way, José! If your chorizo's rotten and your pee's picante, you have to tell people what's up. That's an international rule—even in countries with no basic law, like Mexico. You should always be honest about any diseases you have. Unless it's HPV; that's like the chupacabra—a total myth.

Yo Trife,
For our one-year anniversary, my girl commissioned me a custom allover print "My Boo" hoodie. I've seen similar items selling for $150–$200 on eBay. I'm broke, will she flip if I flip it?
Hugh Amaikidden, Troy, NY

Uh, tacky much? If my fiancé sold the custom airbrushed selvedge denim Japanese jeans I got him for our six-week anniversary, I'd be devastated. I mean, that's a painting of my head on the crotch—it's like he's making love to my face. You can't put a price on intimacy like that.

Hey Trifey,
I was at my sister's house and found a bottle of Rohypnol in her man's medicine cabinet. Either he's stepping out or giving roofies to my sis. What do I do?
Jim Thedor, Galveston, TX

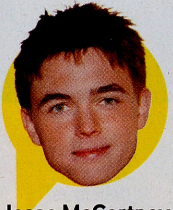
I hang with musicians and finance guys all the time: not everyone with roofies or GHB is cheating on his wife. Like, some date rapists aren't even *engaged*. Mind your business. Sisters hate snitches.

Ricos
TACOS GRANDE
USTEDES PUEDE COMERLOS
"huele bien"

Send your queries to askatrifey@complex.com.

Talking Heads

A distinguished celebrity panel answers our probing questions.

	 Jesse McCartney	Tego Calderón	Jereme Rogers	Flavor Flav
WHAT'S THE WORST TRICK SOMEONE'S PLAYED ON YOU?	Two years ago, I got *Punk'd.* I was pissed.	Somebody snitched on me to my mom. I got a beating in front of my girlfriend.	They told me about Santa Claus.	Someone put a booger in my hamburger, and I ate it.
WHAT'S YOUR MOST PRIZED POSSESSION?	My house. It's my sanctuary.	My family and friends.	My relationship with God.	A Flavor Flav cuckoo clock that was made for me over in Switzerland.
WHERE DID YOU LOSE YOUR VIRGINITY?	On my downstairs couch, when I grew up in New York.	My mama's house.	At this chick's house.	On a box in the bushes.
WHAT CELEBRITY INTIMIDATES YOU?	Nobody, unless I knocked over 15 of their motorcycles.	Oprah. She has all the white ladies watching her. I think she wants to be president.	Tom Cruise	Denzel Washington. I met him twice and I was crazy starstruck.
	The pop star breaks into R&B with his third LP, Departure, *in stores now.*	*Reggaeton's realest MC's new album,* El Abayarde Contra-Ataca, *is out now.*	*Catch the Famous skater at the Maloof Money Cup in Costa Mesa, CA this July.*	*Public Enemy's comic relief stars in* Under One Roof *on* MyNetworkTV.

TRUE STORY

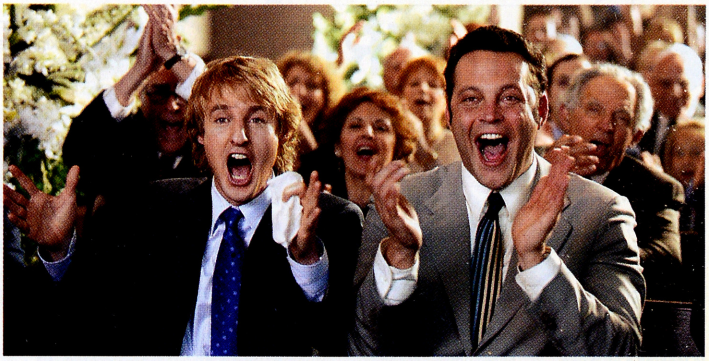
"I was real, real, real young, 6 years old. We learned to do the nasty early back in the day. Me and this girl were experimenting on a box in some big tall bushes. My little joint got hard and I penetrated for a few seconds."

DRINKWATER/NBCU/AP PHOTO; FLAVOR FLAV: FRANK MICELOTTA/GETTY IMAGES

Illustration by KAGAN MCLEOD

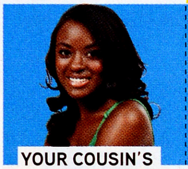
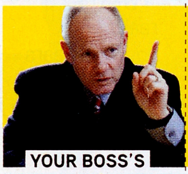
Complex Weddings 101

Spastic dancing, anonymous sex, projectile vomiting—no, it's not the "grown ups" table at Jayden and Sean Spears' birthday party, it's wedding season! Follow the **COMPLEX WEDDING GUIDE** and act the fool with impunity all summer.



RITES AND WRONGS

NOT ALL NUPTIALS ARE CREATED EQUAL. **BEFORE YOU RSVP FOR ANY WEDDINGS, MAKE SURE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GETTING INTO.**

	WHERE TO BUY THE GIFT	COMMENT TO AVOID	SONG NOT TO REQUEST	STAY AWAY FROM	STOP DRINKING WHEN
 YOUR COUSIN'S	Bed Bath & Beyond	"But then we turned 16 and stopped taking baths together."	"Sweetest Taboo," Sade	Your suspicious uncle	Your repressed memories begin to resurface.
 YOUR BOSS'S	Tiffany & Co.	"I guess he got tired of trying to expense his Cambodian ladyboys."	"Dude (Looks Like a Lady)," Aerosmith	Phuc Buy. *He-she*... delicious!	You start to calculate your own threshold lady-to-boy ratio.
YOUR BEST FRIEND'S	realdoll.com	"And then [FRIEND'S NAME] said, 'Shotgun anus!'"	"It Ain't No Fun," Snoop Dogg	Feeding the groom cake	You propose a toast to "the best fuck bu—I mean, *fuckin'* buddy ever!"
YOUR EX-GIRLFRIEND'S	plastercastofmycockandballs.com	"I guess she got tired of that good dick. Seriously. It is *tremendous*."	"Been There, Done That," Dr. Dre	The groom	You fall out of a tree while weeping and masturbating outside their honeymoon suite.

TOASTMASTER 3000

YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE THE BEST MAN TO **BE THE BEST MAN AT THE WEDDING.** FOLLOW OUR FIVE EASY STEPS AND BE THE TOAST OF THE PARTY.

GET THE ROOM'S ATTENTION
You can clink your fork on your glass. You can clink your dick on your glass. Or you can simply yell, "YAHHH TRICK, YAHHH!" We suggest the last option.

BE SUCCINCT
Why use a long-winded phrase like "GOLD-DIGGING JEZEBEL WHO WILL CASTRATE YOU WITHOUT BATTING AN EYE TO ENJOY AN EASIER LIFE" when "RESOURCEFUL" will do fine?

START WITH A QUOTE
JOSEPH BARTH said that marriage is "our last, best chance to grow up." But perhaps LIL WAYNE said it better: "Every nigga fuck they main girl in the ass."

TELL A FUN STORY ABOUT THE COUPLE
You can talk about when the groom fell in love, or you could recount the time in Acapulco that the bride shouted "SHOTGUN ANUS." Take your pick, but the choice seems obvious.

OFFER PARTING WORDS OF WISDOM
"May your love abide even as an enlarged prostate renders him impotent and her vagina becomes a SLACK, YAWNING CHASM." They did say for better or for worse, right?

(PHOTOS): WEDDING CRASHERS © NEW LINE/COURTESY EVERETT COLLECTION; ALL OTHERS: ISTO

WEDDING SMASHERS

YOU'VE SEEN *WEDDING CRASHERS*—AND SO HAS EVERY GIRL AT THE RECEPTION. FORGET EYE-FUCKING, SOB STORIES, AND PLAYING CUTE WITH THE KIDS. **ACT AND PACK RIGHT, AND MORE THAN ONE GIRL** CAN CATCH THE BOU-KA-QUET-QUET...(SPLASH!).

THE BRIDESMAID
Provisions: Dresses in sizes 2, 4, 6, and 22 (just in case). Bridesmaids always hate their dresses, so be the man of the hour with a supply of backups.
Tactics: Just don't let 'em see you with a trunkful of dresses, Buffalo Bill.

THE GIRL AT THE BAR
Provisions: A hotel room nearby. A long drive before the consummation leaves lots of time for second thoughts (not to mention passing out).
Tactics: Propose toasts to everything from the third dance to the paté. According to Veuve's Law, raised glasses equal lowered inhibitions. Look it up!

THE WOMAN AT THE KIDS' TABLE
Provisions: A decoy date. Size up your prey, and when she asks about your "girlfriend," casually reply, "That's not my girlfriend, that's my retarded cousin I take care of on weekends."
Tactics: She won't want to be seen at the bar, so offer to deflower her virgin daiquri.

THE SHY ONE
Provisions: Ecstasy. Even the quietest of wallflowers will perk up when she realizes HOW EFFING GOOD HER FOLLICLES FEEL!
Tactics: Flattery. Try "That's the prettiest chin I've ever come across."

FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE

KEEP TRACK OF **YOUR WEDDING FUN** WITH OUR MATRIMONIAL SCORECARD.

-10
Your cell goes off during the ceremony. (+5 if the ringtone is "Yahhh Trick, Yahhh!")

+15
You compliment the bride's grandmother on her dress. (-20 if it's actually her mother.)

-20
You spill your first drink on your suit jacket. (Additional -25 if you later take it off and wave it around your head like a helicopter.)

+30
You and grandma wow the crowd with Kid N' Play moves on the dance floor. (-35 if you and grandma segue into the "Dutty Wine.")

-40
You catch the garter. (+45 if you catch a bridesmaid's garter. In your teeth.)

+75
That MILF you flirted with is going home with you. (-80 if it's actually a GMILF).

Illustration by Dpi

JACK OF ALL TRADES

Massage Therapist

With little research and no practice, our fearless columnist throws himself into the world of massage therapy.

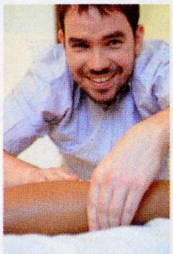
I can't lie—the Jack of All Trades's "happy hands" have gotten him into trouble a couple of times in the past (it turns out "restraining order" doesn't mean telling your passengers to buckle up). But that was then, this is now, and today I'm going to give a massage to a real-life, *consenting* girl. And to do that, I'm going to have to get within 50 feet of her...so take that, Judge Rizzo!

① HAPPY BEGINNING

I arrive at Handle With Care Massage Therapy, and, once I've pulled myself out of the laughing fit induced by the idea that I handle anything with care, I meet the lovely Raquel, who's agreed to let me massage her (she seems perfectly sane otherwise). As I do with all the beautiful women I meet, I first ask her where it hurts and if **SHE'LL TAKE OFF HER CLOTHES.** Amazingly, she agrees to disrobe. I don't care what the Democrats say, this country is awesome!

② SLIPPERY STUFF

With my prey—er, patron—lying facedown on the massage table, I drape her up to the waist in a soft linen sheet. Before the massage officially jumps off, **I SKEET—ER, SQUIRT**—a generous amount of massage oil in my hands and rub them together for a few seconds (never massage with cold hands!). I then begin with "efflaurage," a universal technique (long, slow strokes, always performed clockwise) that aids circulation by warming the body.



③ GETTING A LEG UP

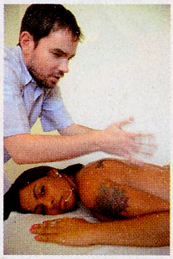
After continuing the efflaurage, it's time for "petrissage," a deeper massage that resembles kneading dough (and she does have some buttermilk biscuits). It's tough going at first, but after a couple of "ouches" and one **"IF YOU DO THAT AGAIN, I'M GOING TO KICK YOU,"** I find a stroke that seems to work on her calves: I cup my hands into "C" shapes and perform a wringing motion, moving slowly while applying equal pressure with my thumb and forefingers.

④ THROWIN' 'BOWS

Once I'm done working out Raquel's legs, I turn my attention to her back. Standing by her head, I run my forearms slowly down her back between her shoulder blades and spine, **FINISHING RIC FLAIR-STYLE** (WHOOO!) with my elbows just inside her shoulder blades. Somehow I suppress the urge to segue into a full sleeper-hold.

⑤ ALL THUMBS

With the lower shoulder loosened up, it's time to start on the shoulders themselves. I run my thumbs just above—not on—the top of the shoulder blade. Things are finally going smoothly... until I ask her to recite some **DIRTY LIMERICKS** I'd prepared. Apparently "I love it when Jack rubs my ass" isn't poetic. Everybody's a critic.



⑥ CHOP SHOP

To wrap up, I put my hands together like I'm praying and lightly chop her back. This technique is called "tapotement," and helps to **RELAX THE MUSCLES.** Finished, I ask Raquel how she feels. "Like the guy who hit his head with a hammer 'cause it felt good when he stopped." Yet another satisfied customer for the Jack of All Trades!

HOW'D HE DO?

The Expert Rating: 2

"His hands were kinda shaky, but I guess that's like a one-man massage chair. If I were looking for an amateur massage, I could probably do worse." —Shaniqua Farrior, Touch and You Spa, touchnexhale@gmail.com

1) USELESS **2) NOVICE** 3) COMPETENT 4) PRO 5) MASTER

Photographs by CHRISTOPHER FRANKO

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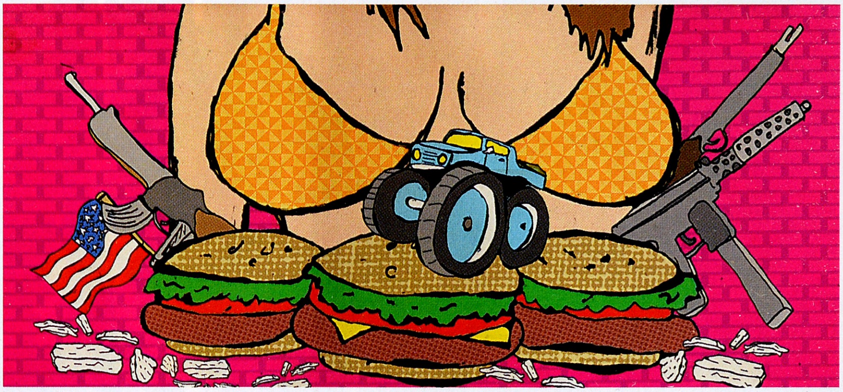
Stars And Sites

The Web is worldwide, but the only part we care about is the U.S., ya heard? The **MOST AMERICAN SITES ON THE NET** will get your July 4th poppin'.



	SITE:	WHAT:	WHO:	WHY:	AS AMERICAN AS:	BY THE NUMBERS:
	METHSPACE.COM	The joy of tweaking, including the ever-popular "Faces of Meth."	Amateur chemists, the horribly bored, dentists looking for work.	Can't seem to stay awake for those 4 a.m. infomercials.	Mopping the kitchen every 30 minutes.	4.5: Missing teeth needed to qualify for reality TV show *Meth Mouth*.
	FASTFOOD SOURCE.COM	Fast food news, ratings, locators, and discussion.	People annoyed by unclogged arteries.	The top of the food pyramid is the tastiest.	Freedom Fries, Freedom Toast, and Freedom Kissing.	250: pounds lost by the Hamburglar after his 16-month meth bender.
	MONSTER PHOTOS.COM	BBMT (that's Big Beautiful Monster Trucks to the layman).	Good ol' boys who can't fit in their wives' Mini Coopers.	That Skoal Bandit ain't gonna suck on itself.	Yosemite Sam mud flaps.	10,000: weight in pounds of typical monster truck.
	BIGBREAST ARCHIVE.COM	A chest load of mystery melons and cupcakes.	Not the itty bitty committee, that's for sure.	Large-breasted women require constant sexual attention.	Double-wide trailers.	$37.46: price of 90 herbal breast enhancement supplement pills.
	MINUTEMAN PROJECT.COM	Last defense from the "Spaniards" (or whatever the PC term for 'em is).	Dudes who think Osama bin Laden might be Mexican.	Freedom isn't free, damn it!	Lynch mobs, internment camps, hosing children.	1,952: length of the U.S. southern border in miles
	GUNSLOT.COM	Where gun owners go to stick it.	Guys who like their holsters filled.	Ask again when a "Spanish" sex fiend breaks into your house to steal your job.	Shooting first and asking questions later.	10: cold, dead fingers to pry open if you wanna take my gun, punk.

YOUTUBIN' WITH THE STARS

THREE 6 MAFIA'S DJ PAUL REVIEWS FAN-MADE CLIPS (PS, THREE 6'S *LAST 2 WALK* IS IN STORES NOW).

"Sam and Erica Slob on my Knob"

Two teens enact a raunchy sing-along of Three 6's classic "Slob on my Nob." "They look drunk as hell. You can't tell these days with girls. I tell them they looking young, they be old. I like the eye-patch, but I'll stay away from both of them—it might be jailbait."

"Evil Pimp"

An aspiring rapper talks greasy and makes premature plans for working with the Mafia. "Oh man, I thought he was gonna rap. I ain't never heard of Evil Pimp. He's already got the gun, he's got that part taken care of. You've got to have guns these days. [*Laughs.*]"

Illustration by CHRIS AMMONS

Super 3/4 fett
36

BREAD & BUTTER
TRADESHOW FOR SELECTED BRANDS
BARCELONA 02.–04. JULY 2008

Super mager
36p

Super [illegible]
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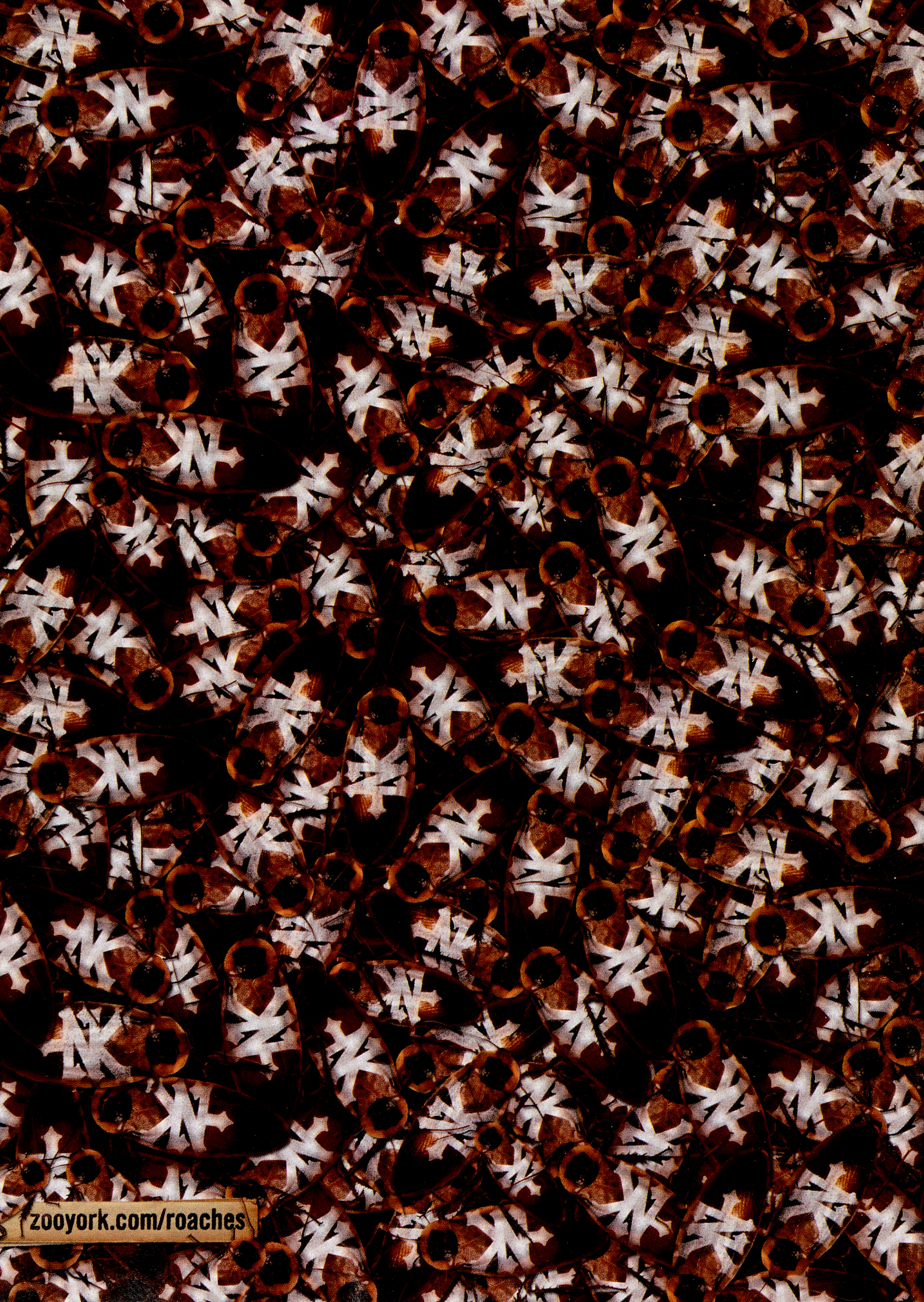
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Complex Individuals

41 GUILLERMO DEL TORO 44 TERRY CREWS 46 DANNY MCBRIDE 48 KID SISTER 50 KIDZ IN THE HALL

→ THE SHOTCALLER

GUILLERMO DEL TORO

Your favorite director's favorite director reveals why Hellboy is so hardcore, why American horror is soft, and why romance is for sissies.

By Matt Barone

[CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE]

Photograph by NEIL GAVIN

HADES BABIES: GDT with the cast of *Hellboy II*

INFORMER

Del Toro was tabbed to direct *I Am Legend* before Will Smith became the lead. He dropped out because he felt the original star wasn't right. Said actor's name may or may not rhyme with Kwarzenpegger.

"Passion projects" rarely materialize for most directors, but Guillermo del Toro has made a career specializing in them. For more than 15 years, the Mexican-born auteur has written and directed only the films of his choosing, including *The Devil's Backbone* (2001) and the Oscar-nominated *Pan's Labyrinth* (2006). His Hollywood experience has been equally rewarding, allowing the professional fanboy to adapt his favorite comic book, *Hellboy,* into a 2004 film. Though modestly successful, the movie wasn't typical sequel-worthy fare—until its DVD sales paved the way for the devilish antihero's return this July in *Hellboy II: The Golden Army*. Complex sat down with GDT to discuss censorship, fuck-you's, and why he's so good it's scary.

You turned down *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* to make the first *Hellboy*. Why such love for Big Red?
He's a blue-collar guy, but also the beast of the apocalypse. It's an attractive contrast. Everybody likes superheroes to be badass, tough motherfuckers. Hellboy is probably more powerful than any of them, but he's a slacker. He'd love to be watching TV and eating pizza.

When you first read the *Hellboy* comics, did you instantly see movie potential?
Initially, I never thought anyone would adapt it to film. Just the word "hell" scares marketing guys away. In 2008, when everything is going wrong in the world, there's still this puritanical shying away from some words. When the first *Hellboy* came out we had a lot of trouble in the Bible Belt. The big movie at the time was *The Passion of the Christ*—we were a very bad double bill. [*Laughs.*] I remember receiving a Polaroid from a cinema marquee in the South. They'd changed the title to "Bellboy." And another one changed it to "Hello Boy."

After Columbia backed out of *Hellboy II*, DVD sales inspired Universal to jump aboard. Were you ever nervous that it wouldn't see the light of day?
I was prepared for it to go either way so I had other things going. There was even *Halo* for a while. When *Hellboy II* came forth through Universal, I dropped out of everything. I love Hellboy that much.

> "I SAY TWO WORDS THAT I DIDN'T SAY ENOUGH BACK THEN: F**K OFF."

That conviction is admirable.
It's funny, people talk about my small, personal movies like *Pan's Labyrinth* or *The Devil's Backbone* and say I do *Hellboy* to appease financial needs. It's not true at all. If that was the case, I would've taken other big money projects I've been offered.

You've been vocal about your rough time on your first American project, 1997's *Mimic*. Do American studios treat you differently now?
I can say two words now that I didn't say enough back then: "Fuck off." If I don't defend it enough, then at the end of the day, the director—me—is responsible. You get that little credit that says, "A film by...," but you also get the shit that comes with it. I defend myself better now.

Why are international genre films so much better than American ones?
When you make films in Europe and Latin America, you make them on your own. In Hollywood, it's much harder to get your personality through. Internationally, if you want to tackle abortion or incest through horror, they allow it. In America, there's a tendency to make safer rides.

So why do so many talented international filmmakers come to America and succumb to the terrible remake trend?
The danger is for Hollywood to be the goal. Hollywood should be a station of the cross, never the crucifixion itself.

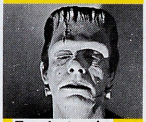
Do you ever see yourself stepping away from genre/fantasy films?
No. I keep a little notebook with me and just do sketches of creatures. I love monsters with a passion. I keep inventing new ones, many of which will never see the light of day in a movie. Monsters are the most beautiful creatures in the universe. I have no interest in everyday life, except through a twisted mirror.

So no romantic comedies?
[*Laughs.*] No way. *Sleepless in Seattle* can go fuck itself. ©

PROJECT TALK

Del Toro's list of potential "next" projects runs longer than *Grindhouse*.

At the Mountains of Madness
"We have the screenplay [an H.P. Lovecraft adaptation], but everybody seems afraid of financing such a big genre movie. But I'm being patient."



Frankenstein
"I'm writing an outline for a feature I'd direct, so cross your fingers. I'm coming from the perspective of another character, not the monster or Dr. Frankenstein."

Dr. Strange
"[Screenwriter] Neil Gaiman and I have just been shooting the shit. Nothing has been formalized, even though people think it has."

The Hobbit
"There are so many ramifications to it. It'd be a privilege to dedicate as many years as needed to do it justice, but so many factors have to converge first."

(PHOTOS) HELLBOY II: EGON ENDRENYI/UNIVERSAL PICTURES; I AM LEGEND: © WARNER BROS./COURTESY EVERETT COLLECTION; FRANKENSTEIN: NBCU/AP PHOTO; DR. STRANGE: MARVEL COMICS; THE HOBBIT: COURTESY EVERETT COLLECTION

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TERRY CREWS

The ex-NFL lineman and *Get Smart*'s comedic secret weapon reveals his life's contradictions. As told to Jack Erwin

INFORMER

Crews, a *Fangoria* fan, originally moved to Los Angeles with dreams of being a special-effects artist.

"I LEARNED HOW TO ROLL BY MYSELF AND DO MY OWN THING AT A VERY YOUNG AGE."

→ **I'm not a loner… But I don't mind** being different. You have to understand, I'm from Flint, Michigan, where you have to fight your way into the school. I learned how to roll by myself and do my own thing at a very young age. I can sense when I'm becoming too much like anybody else, and I feel an urge to change.

→ ***Beat Street* was like my hip-hop** *Star Wars.* I wanted to be in the Rock Steady Crew. They had a chapter of the Zulu Nation in San Diego, and when I was on the Chargers, I joined… **But they smoked so much,** I was like, "Damn, I'm going to get a contact high." I knew I couldn't do it, but that's my upbringing.

→ **I didn't know how to act… But I was like Dammit,** I'ma learn. At my first audition, they said, "Just dress wild." So I got my face painted, got Spandex, a Star Trek thing to go around my chest. I was looking like a space alien. The producers told me later, "The fact you were willing to be so uncool made us pick you."

→ **I'm a pretty corny dude.** That's it. I wasn't cool at all in high school… **But the coolest guy** in my high school works in a car wash now. It's almost like I go full circle. I'm so uncool that I'm cool. My kids are like, "I'm embarrassed." And I'm like, "Are you embarrassed by that new car? Nah, I don't think you are."

→ **Thirty percent of people like you,** 30 percent are undecided, and the rest hate you. You can't really do anything about that… **But I'm going to do my job** pleasing the ones that like me. I get plenty of people that are like, "Dude, I'm watching the movie because of you." That's a good feeling.

→ ***White Chicks* was rated** one of the worst movies ever, right along with *Norbit*… **But I love that stuff.** There's not a character I've played that I haven't enjoyed. If I didn't love it, I wouldn't do it. I've turned plenty of stuff down that could have been all right, but I thought it was wack. If I'm in it, you can bet I'm with it.

(GROOMING) LAUREN COHEN USING KIEHL'S AT TRACEYMATTINGLY.COM

Photograph by PETER GRAHAM

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DANNY MCBRIDE

The star of *The Foot Fist Way* and *Tropic Thunder* chops it up (hiiiiii-yah!) about breaking into Hollywood.

As told to Mary H.K. Choi

INFORMER

There are two Danny McBrides in Hollywood. Our Danny went by Danny R. McBride until he felt he'd usurped the one who is known for cowriting *Underworld*.

1 DON'T BE A PRODUCTION ASSISTANT.

You think you're going to work your way up, and that's not the deal. I worked on the set of *Battle Dome* and vacuumed the thing in between cage matches. You work for 16 hours and get back up at 5 a.m. to go do it again. You'll lose your mind.

2 IF YOU HAVE TO BE A P.A., HAVE FUN.

Roofie people's coffee. I like the Black Butterflies. They dissolve quickly, and there's a mild taste of licorice, but nothing anyone's going to detect. Next thing you know, they're in the Valley and I'm lumbering over them with a baseball bat.

3 INDULGE YOUR INNER FANBOY.

I've never ached to be on screen. I'm just a humongous fan of movies and this is a ticket to ride. Jack Black, Robert Downey Jr., Ben Stiller, Nick Nolte... these are the motivators. I don't know if I'll be any good, but spend the summer hanging with these dudes? I'll do that.

4 KNOW THAT L.A. IS DIFFERENT.

I used to loathe L.A., but when I went back to the South, L.A. had its thorny fingernail in my neck. When *Foot Fist Way* got into Sundance, I went out to L.A., had cold beer, a big spliff, and fat rails. Crystal methamphetamines. That's what separates L.A. from the South. There's real Mexican food out here too. And the racism is different—more of an aged, oaky flavor.

Photograph by SAM COMEN

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KID SISTER

With her debut LP, *Koko B. Ware*, out now, the Chi-town MC gets inside the male mind.

As told to Saidah Petrie

Men say: Girls who hang around a lot of dudes are promiscuous.
Kid Sister says: Girls who hang out around a lot of dudes can kick your ass! [*Laughs.*] I had nothing but male friends throughout high school and college, and I didn't lose my virginity until I was 20. Usually when a girl has a lot of guy friends it means just the opposite. She's a tomboy, and you don't see tomboys ho-ing around.

Men say: Women who have dealt with weight issues tend to be passive in relationships.
Kid Sister says: At one time I was 215 pounds, so I've definitely dealt with weight issues, but I'm not passive at all. Being overweight doesn't equate to being passive. When a woman has weight issues it tends to have nothing to do with weight. It has to do with self-esteem. I've been thick my whole life, and I've always had good self-esteem.

Men say: My girl has no reason to distrust me, but I'd never give her access to my e-mail or my phone.
Kid Sister says: When you reach a certain point in a relationship, you automatically have access to those things. I wouldn't want anyone in my shit until after six months. My boyfriend and I have nothing to hide, though, so we're all up in each other's stuff—not investigating, but he has access if he wants, and I have access if I want. For instance—this is ghetto—but I didn't get a computer until about six months ago. So when I was on the road, I'd ask him, "Baby, can you check my email and add my MySpace friends for me so I don't look like a loser?"

Men say: It's not a good look to work in the same industry as the woman I'm seeing.
Kid Sister says: That's true. If you're working in an office, it would suck to break up with someone in the cubicle next to you, and then you're like, "Hey, do you want to go get lunch?" [*Laughs.*] Then again, if you're dating someone who works in your industry, you probably run in the same social circles anyway. The risk is the shame, but what are you going to do? Just go for it and get a little booty if you can.

"JUST GO FOR IT AND GET A LITTLE BOOTY IF YOU CAN."

INFORMER

After majoring in film at Columbia College, Kid Sister worked as a P.A. on two Sundance films—*The Guys* and *The Best Thief in the World*.

THE BEST
THIEF
IN THE WORLD

Photograph by MIREYA ACIERTO

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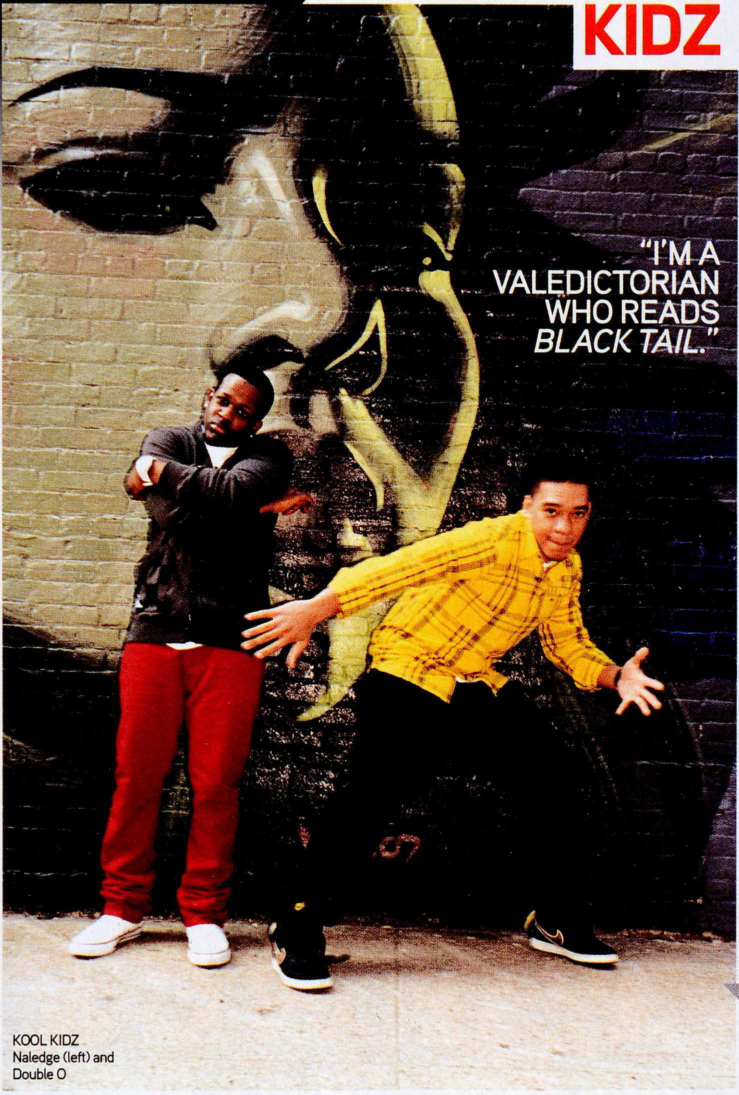
KIDZ IN THE HALL

Forget retro, rap's next-gen duo makes future sounds. By Damien Scott


"I'M A VALEDICTORIAN WHO READS *BLACK TAIL*."

KOOL KIDZ
Naledge (left) and Double O

In her saner days, Whitney Houston said it best: The children are our future. Kidz in the Hall agree. Chicago MC Jabari "Naledge" Evans, 25, and New Jersey producer/DJ Michael "Double O" Aguilar, 28, know rap history, but they're not interested in rehashing it. "There are a lot of corny rappers that try to bring '88 back when they should be trying to bring in 3004," says Naledge. "Every statement [you make] should be the next thing."

One of the most promising new rap groups of the mid 2000s, Kidz signed with the storied indie label Rawkus Records in 2006 to release their critically acclaimed insightful boom-bap debut, *School Was my Hustle*. Unfortunately, Rawkus execs promoted the University of Pennsylvania grads as the second coming of conscious backpackers Reflection Eternal instead of pushing them as the more eclectic, complex future of rap. "I'm a valedictorian who reads *Black Tail*, eats fried chicken, and is addicted to Hennessy," says Naledge. "I contradict myself every day."

Relocated to Duck Down Records, an older but more progressive label, Kidz dropped their second album, *The in Crowd,* in May. In addition to mixing chopped soul and 808 drums with Euro dance sounds, Kidz have been collaborating with trendsetting contemporaries like Clipse, Black Milk, and the Cool Kids. "You can't tell us that hip-hop is not evolving," Double O explains. "Love what you listen to, love what you do with it, love who you are, and then take that shit to the next level."

Teach them well and let them lead the way.

INFORMER

A collegiate track star, Double O competed in the 400m Hurdles for Belize at the 2004 Olympics.

COOLING OFF

Complex grades the coolness of other popular "in" crowds.

GREASE (THE T-BIRDS)

Johnny Travolta's gang raced fast cars, dug out fast women, got into fistfights, and wore fitted jeans and leather. Jim Jones wishes he was that fly.

GRADE: A-

SAVED BY THE BELL

A.C. Slater, the "cool jock" of the show's impossibly diverse clique, wore spandex unitards and never touched a titty in four years of high school.

GRADE: F

MEAN GIRLS (THE PLASTICS)

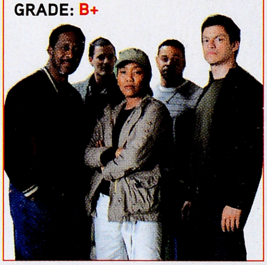
Nothing puts a spring in our gym shorts like bitchy, elitist sluts with eating disorders. Boi-oing!

GRADE: B

THE WIRE (THE MAJOR CRIMES UNIT)

If these hard-drinking, skirt-chasing rebels weren't cops, they would be supremely gangster.

GRADE: B+



Photograph by MATT DOYLE

Reach for the Silver Top

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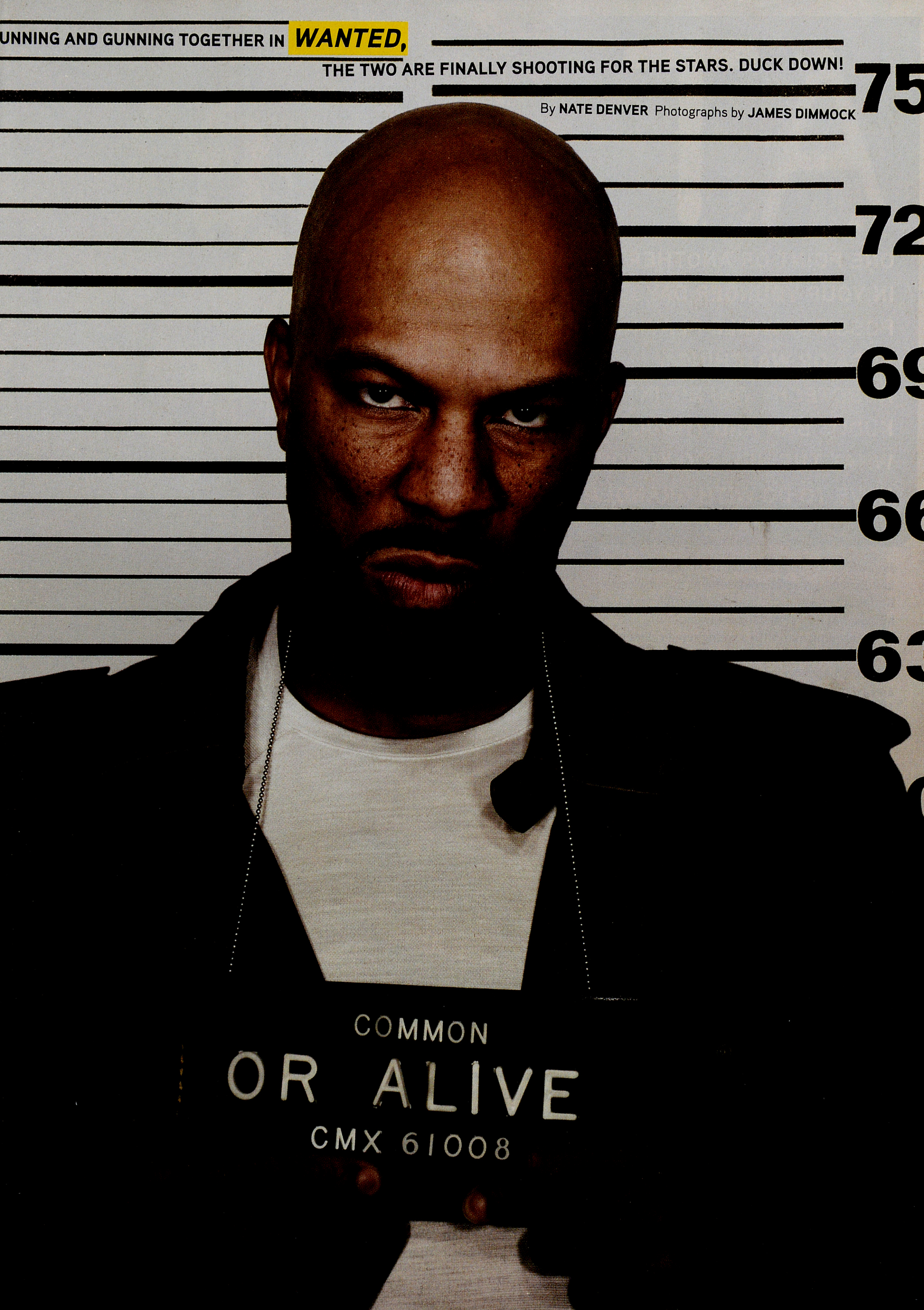
UNNING AND GUNNING TOGETHER IN ***WANTED,*** THE TWO ARE FINALLY SHOOTING FOR THE STARS. DUCK DOWN!

By **NATE DENVER** Photographs by **JAMES DIMMOCK**


75
72
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OR ALIVE
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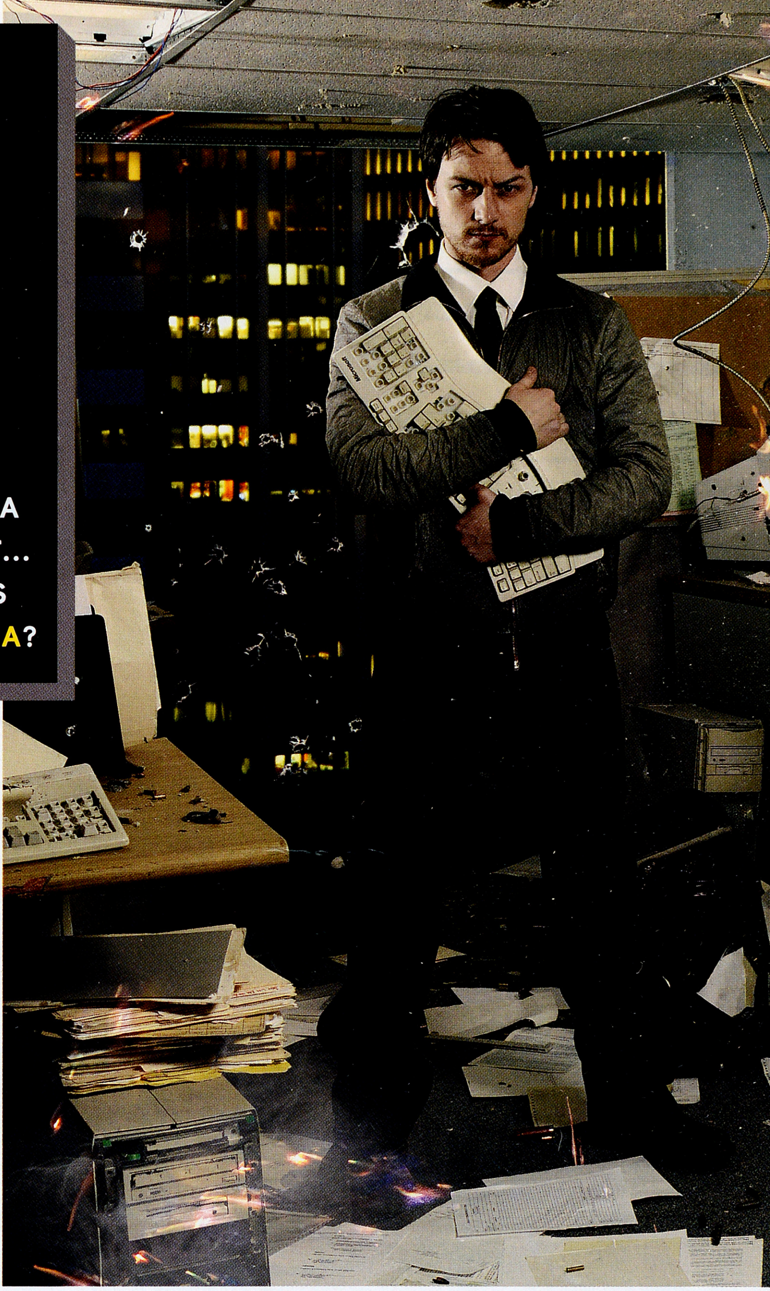
AT ONE POINT OR ANOTHER IN YOUR YOUNGER DAYS—POSSIBLY WHILE PLAYING SEGA OR WATCHING *ROBOTECH*—YOU BIT INTO A KUDOS BAR AND THOUGHT... WHAT THE HELL DO KUDOS HAVE TO DO WITH GRANOLA?



James McAvoy and Common, two talents well familiar with critical accolades know the answer: Kudos are good for you and they'll satisfy your hunger, but they're not sugary sweet.

For a young man with a young screen career, McAvoy could not be more lauded. The 29-year-old Scotsman received British Academy of Film and Television Arts nominations for *The Last King of Scotland* and *Atonement*. Across the pond, the latter also earned him a Golden Globe nomination for Best Actor. His co-star, rapper-turned-actor Lonnie Rashid "Common" Lynn, 36, has several Grammy nods (and one actual gold phonograph) under his belt. He's only appeared in a handful of movies, but his albums *Resurrection* and *Be* are certified rap classics. Despite the kudos, neither McAvoy nor Common has enjoyed the sweetness of blockbuster success.

But this summer, all that is set to change thanks to *Wanted*, the cinematic adaptation of Mark Millar and J.G. Jones's graphic novel of the same name. Rife with guns, sex, violence, more guns, and then some bigger guns just in case, *Wanted* is a criminally minded epic that tells the tale of Wesley Gibson (portrayed by McAvoy, despite originally bearing an uncanny resemblance to Eminem in the comic), a pencil-pushing corporate cog who discovers innate superpowers that make him an ideal assassin. He links with a guild of like-minded individuals, including Fox (Angelina Jolie) and the Gunsmith (Common). Needless to say, mayhem ensues and mad blood doth spill. But in the meantime, Complex caught up with the critical darlings to discuss nihilism, superpowers, and Common's beef with white boys on the Bulls.

What do you feel is the value of nihilistic art, whether in hip-hop or movies?

C: Well, I gotta learn what "nihilistic" means.

Someone or something who doesn't believe in anything, rejects all moral conventions...

J: No hope.

The killer is a nihilist.

J: The character, to be honest with you, is less nihilistic. He doesn't kill indiscriminately, it's fate telling him to do it. It's not the same, really—I don't think I would have gotten involved if it was, to tell you the truth.

C: I'm an advocate for hope and I always feel like there's hope; I don't know why, that's just what I believe. I don't know if it's my spiritual belief that makes me know it's always hope, but I definitely didn't feel that *Wanted* left no hope.

Did you trip out on your character looking like Eminem?

J: No, not at all. If anything, it made me want to do my own thing with it. Because casting Eminem—there's just no point in going that way. So we talked about cutting my hair off and dying it bleach-blond, but I was like, "That's never gonna happen." 'Cause we're not doing an impression of Eminem.

Was it more fun to film in Chicago or the Czech Republic?

J: Chicago is a fun town, but we weren't there for long and it was all night shoots. In Prague...

C: Prague, dude, I had a good time. It was one

ON JAMES
Jacket by Boss Black; shirt by Calvin Klein; tie by John Varvatos; jeans by Prada; boots by Frye.
ON COMMON
Suit and shirt by Fendi; shoes by Cesare Paciotti.

(OPENING SPREAD)
ON JAMES
Jacket by Nicole Farhi; T-shirt by John Varvatos.
ON COMMON
Trench by Burberry; T-shirt by Helmut Lang.

of the funnest times of my life. Just hanging out, filming, working, and relaxing; I sat by the river, looked at the bridge, and drank wine. We'd go out...

J: Sangria. [*Laughs.*]

C: [*Laughs.*] Yeah, drinkin' sangria, just kickin' it. We even went go-karting.

If you were given mega-strength in real life, along with a crew of people who would cover all your tracks, would you do good or bad?

J: I'm sure I'd do something that wasn't very good. I hope I'd be a good enough person not to fuck up too much. Power corrupts, though, it really does.

C: [*Laughs.*] We all misuse power at some point or another. Some of the times I get power, I see myself misusing it. If I had powers, I would do my best to do right in the world, but like James says, you're gonna mess up a little bit, do something sneaky. But overall you just wanna do right. That's what life is.

What kind of superpower would you want?

J: Do you know, man?

C: Yeah, I think I would want to be able to create anything with my mind, so if I visualize it, I can create it. So that means I can do a lot of shit.

J: Cool, man. I think time travel or teleportation, that kind of thing.

C: Yeah.

I would want to be able to talk to animals like Dr. Dolittle. They could do my bidding.

J: Nice.

C: Wow.

If you could talk to animals, what would you have them do, or do with them?

J: I would become the most fucking kick-ass animal wrangler in Hollywood. [*Both laugh.*] "Pick up that cigar, light it, and put it in Rashid's mouth." [*Both laugh.*]

C: For me, I don't know what I would have 'em do, but I would want to be amongst the lions. I don't know if it's hunting or whatever, but

Jacket by Pringle of Scotland

"WE TALKED ABOUT DYING MY HAIR BLOND, BUT THAT'S NEVER GONNA HAPPEN. I'M NOT EMINEM."

I've always wanted to be a lion, like that kingly attack. They're beautiful, too; panthers and stuff are beautiful too.

James, how has being a classically trained actor helped or hindered you?

J: I don't think it's hurt me—sometimes it would have been easier just to think of it as my job, just turn up and say my lines.

Common, you have training as well?

C: Once I knew I wanted to start getting into it, I took some classes and I loved it. That's what made me want to do movies because my first class I was like, "Man! This is a good feeling, getting to express myself like that." So I can say the classes have helped me to become more confident and comfortable. And I was just excited to work with James. I seen James in *Last King of Scotland*, I'm one of them people like, if I see somebody and I think they got something, I become a fan and follow they stuff. So when I seen James, after that, what was that movie you did with "ten?"

J: *Starter for 10*? I can't believe you watched that.

C: [*Laughs.*] I wanted to see that just because I liked James. So I was excited to work with him. Going back to the whole classical training, whatever he was bringing was just right, and he's like that in every movie I seen him do.

J: Thank you, man.

C: So whatever training is going on, it's right. [*Laughs.*] You can learn some things through training, but there's a certain natural quality that God gives you and that's what I saw in James that made me go, "All right, he got that thing that make you wanna watch him." You wanna watch James. I'm just tellin' the truth.

J: I should leave the room and do something about the raging erection I now have.

[*Both laugh.*]

J: Thank you, man. That's really kind of you.

C: I'm very serious.

How does acting compare to being an MC?

C: Ah, man, there's some similarities as far as just you know, expression, it's still an art—MCing is an art. With acting, the difference is you have to channel somebody else's spirit even though you're not the writer, so you got certain guidelines that you need to go by, 'cause you part of a story. I definitely can say MCing has helped me as far as improv. I'm not afraid to go on naturally what's happening. 'Cause I've learned through performing just, through any situation, keep rockin'!

Do you know of some MCs who are great actors? Studio gangsters, maybe?

C: There's a lot of people out there who exaggerate their lifestyle. My father said to me, some of the best actors he know is them cats on the streets, those hustlin' cats you know? If you wanna know an actor who comes from music who is a great actor, I'd have to say Mos Def.

J: He's great, isn't he? You know what I think helps as well, mate, is that you can learn lots of techniques and tricks and you can get experience doing different types of theater and different types of film, different genres, but if you're not open, you can't communicate. That's what I love about you, you're so open as a person. On set, as well as an actor, I think you're incredibly open. It must be MCing that's done that for you, but like you said, it's also something you're just born with.

C: Yeah.

Do you listen to hip-hop, James?

J: I don't really, I do like Common's stuff, though. I really, really like it, and I didn't know it before we got together on the film. I think it's exactly what you were talking about, so hopeful.

C: Thank you, man. You know, I actually feel good that James wasn't familiar with my work and I got to introduce it to him. You know I've been rapping for a long time...

J: Have you?

C: Yeah, there's still new ground to gain.

Which album did you give him?

J: It was your latest one, wasn't it?

C: I think I gave him either *Be* or *Like Water for Chocolate*.

J: It was *Be*. Hip-hop's not particularly huge in Scotland, although my little sister, Joy, was in a hip-hop group called Streetwise, which is kind of strange, to be a Scottish girl in a hip-hop group. But I'm quite glad I've been introduced to it properly.

We gotta get you *Resurrection*.

PERFECT STRANGERS?

MCAVOY AND COMMON KNOW THE LEDGE, BUT DO THEY KNOW EACH OTHER?

What West Coast rapper/actor did Common have a feud with?

J: Fuck me, I have no idea. Who did you have a feud with?

C: Ice Cube. [*Laughs.*]

J: Oh really? Why?

C: He say he don't know rap that much, that's a tough question. I had a beef with him 'cause

MILLAR'S CROSSING

WANTED'S CREATOR ON HAVING HIS BABY TURNED INTO A BIG-BUDGET BLOCKBUSTER.

"I was sitting alone in the screening room watching it, and the whole time I'm thinking, Please don't suck! I actually couldn't enjoy it for the first 40 minutes because I kept thinking, OK, this is where the good stuff stops and it starts getting shitty, but the director maintained it all the way through. He brought real weight to it. Even the shots at times are exactly like [the original book]. On set it was like walking around the panels of the comic. And the voice-over is exactly the captions from the comic. So I'm actually quite stunned, because I was thinking about the movie as a separate entity and I was pleased with how much it matches up. Originally, it was like being a sperm donor. Giving this thing up, I just provided the sperm. It was going to take on a life of its own, as far as I was concerned. But this was kind of like meeting up with the kid years later and we look identical and we run the same course. [*Laughs.*] It's great."

USHER
SCENTS FOR MEN AND WOMEN
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I did this song called "I Used to Love H.E.R.," which was dealing with the evolution of hip-hop and I used hip-hop as a woman and during the song I talked about how hip-hop evolved and then went to the West Coast and lost some of the consciousness—but I wasn't saying that the West Coast caused that. Anyway, Ice Cube was a West Coast rapper and actor. He felt offended by it and said I was dissin' the West Coast, so him and his guys came out with a song dissin' me.

J: No!

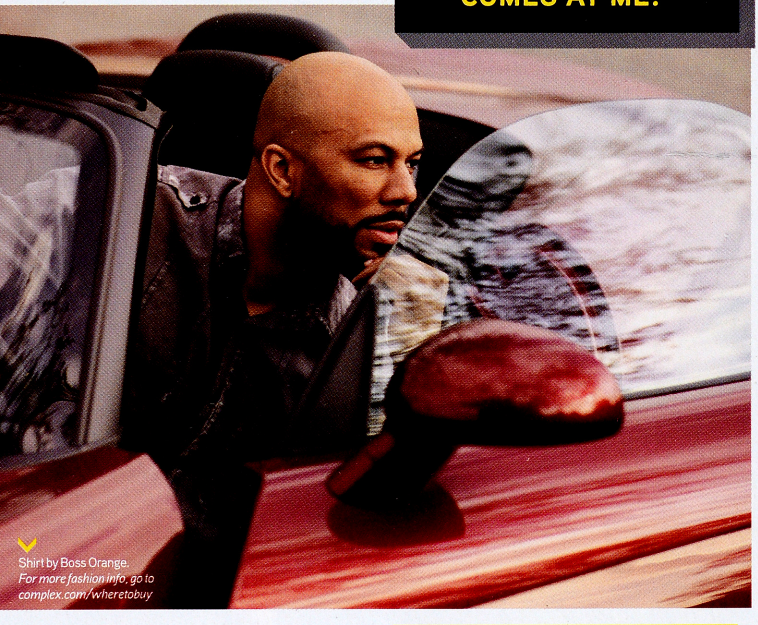
C: [*Laughs.*] Yeah, so then I came back, you know, I'm a warrior, James. I'm like one of them silent warriors, I ain't gonna start nothin' unless someone come at me, you know. Anyway, he came at me, I came back at him strong, that's what it was. War.

J: What was the song?

C: It was called "The Bitch in Yoo." [*Laughs.*]

J: I'm fascinated by this war, I'm gonna have to investigate this. And did you make it up with Ice Cube?

C: Yeah, we made it up. We made it up after, it was a tough time in hip-hop when Biggie Smalls and Tupac had died, so it was like, "We don't need this beef to escalate." 'Cause cats were—it was gettin' to that point where it could have been a physical thing. Much love to that brother.



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James, what famous gangster is from Common's hometown?

J: Al Capone.

What professional sport did Common's father play?

C: These are tough questions.

J: Uh, baseball? Basketball?

C: Yeah, he played basketball.

J: I knew it had to be something very American. [*Both laugh.*] Chess!

What name did Common record his first album under?

C: [*Laughs.*] Ah, man, these are tough!

J: Rashid? Was it Rashid?

It's his name but longer.

J: Common as Muck?

C: No. Think of—use your common...

J: Sense? Common Sense?

C: Yeah. That was my first rap name.

Name one of the pro sports teams in Chicago.

J: Cubs.

Who did Common used to love in his song "I Used to Love H.E.R."?

J: Who? It was...rap?

C: Yeah, hip-hop.

What's Common's favorite food?

J: I don't know, fish?

C: Yeah, that's good. I would say fish now, even though I do love pizza. [*Both laugh.*]

> "I'M A SILENT WARRIOR, JAMES. I AIN'T GONNA START NOTHIN' UNLESS SOMEONE COMES AT ME."

We didn't know either, but we wanted to see if you did. What's Common's best dance move?

J: Oh, I dunno. I've seen you grind particularly well. [*Both laugh.*] I've seen you do that particularly well. That's the move I've seen you use to best effect.

Why doesn't Common watch the Bulls as much?

J: Watch the Bulls? Because his dad played for a different team?

C: [*Laughing.*] Man, these are the most difficult questions.

J: Why don't you watch the Bulls?

C: In a line on "Resurrection," I said, "My mom says some of my songs sound like noise, don't watch the Bulls as much, they got too many white boys." [*Both laugh.*] So, you know, it was one of them true things that you really feel, 'cause after Michael left, it was just—no, that was when Michael was still there. Or, he had just left to play baseball.

J: That was so strange. Was he a success in baseball?

He wasn't a failure, but he was better at basketball.

C: Yeah. He was pretty good in it, but going from being so excellent at basketball, people were too critical.

Common, what mythical creature with the legs and horns of a goat and the upper body of a man did James play in the *Narnia* film?

C: I don't know the name of that animal. [*Laughs.*] I seen him...

J: It's a faun. Or a satyr. Originally taken from the followers of Dionysus. They were like the demons of Dionysus, who was the Greek god of orgies, and they chose that mythical creature to introduce Narnia to an 8-year-old girl. It's so weird. C.S. Lewis was really fucked up.

How do you pronounce this Scottish city? [*Points to the word "Edinburgh" on a page.*]

C: Ah, "Edinburg," "Eedinburg..."

J: Nearly. It's "Edinbura."

C: Ahh. Golly. When did I go there, man?

J: In America, you guys say "buro," we say "bura." But if you're from Edinburgh, you're an Edinburgher. [*In American accent*] You're an Edinburger. [*Both laugh.*]

Name one of the three soccer teams from Glasgow.

J: Oh!

C: [*Laughs.*]

J: Think Boston.

C: Celtics.

J: Yeah!

What drone instrument is often associated with Scotland?

C: Tuba.

J: No, it plays more than one note at once.

C: Accordion.

J: No, you blow air into it and you do that. [*Mimes playing a bagpipe.*]

C: What are those things called? Bagpipes!

J: Yeah!

What country is Sean Connery from?

C: He must be from Scotland. [*Both laugh.*]

Where is *Riverdance* from?

C: Scotland...Glasgow...

J: Oh, it's a trick question. You've just been there.

C: Ireland.

J: Yes! Excellent.

Have you ever worn a kilt?

C: Nah. [*Laughs.*]

J: You'd look good in a kilt, you would.

C: Yeah, right.

J: You know who wears one a lot? American guy, Samuel L. Jackson, he often wears a kilt. And he looks good in it.

C: I honor the dudes that have it in their hearts to wear it, but I don't think I'm gonna rock it. It just ain't in my repertoire. ©

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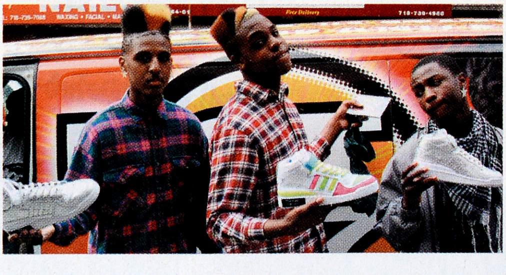
ADIDAS FORUM EVENT @ MOE'S SNEAKER SPOT

On April 12th, adidas partnered with Complex to launch the Moe's edition 25th anniversary Forum shoe through an in-store retail event at the famous retail spot in Queens, New York. Host DJ Jazzy Joyce held down the event and DJ Don Handz kept the beats flowing. There were also product give-aways via a series of adidas trivia questions and a special mix tape made especially for the event.



adidas CELEBRATES
25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE

310
PREMIUM FOOTWEAR
also available at
underground
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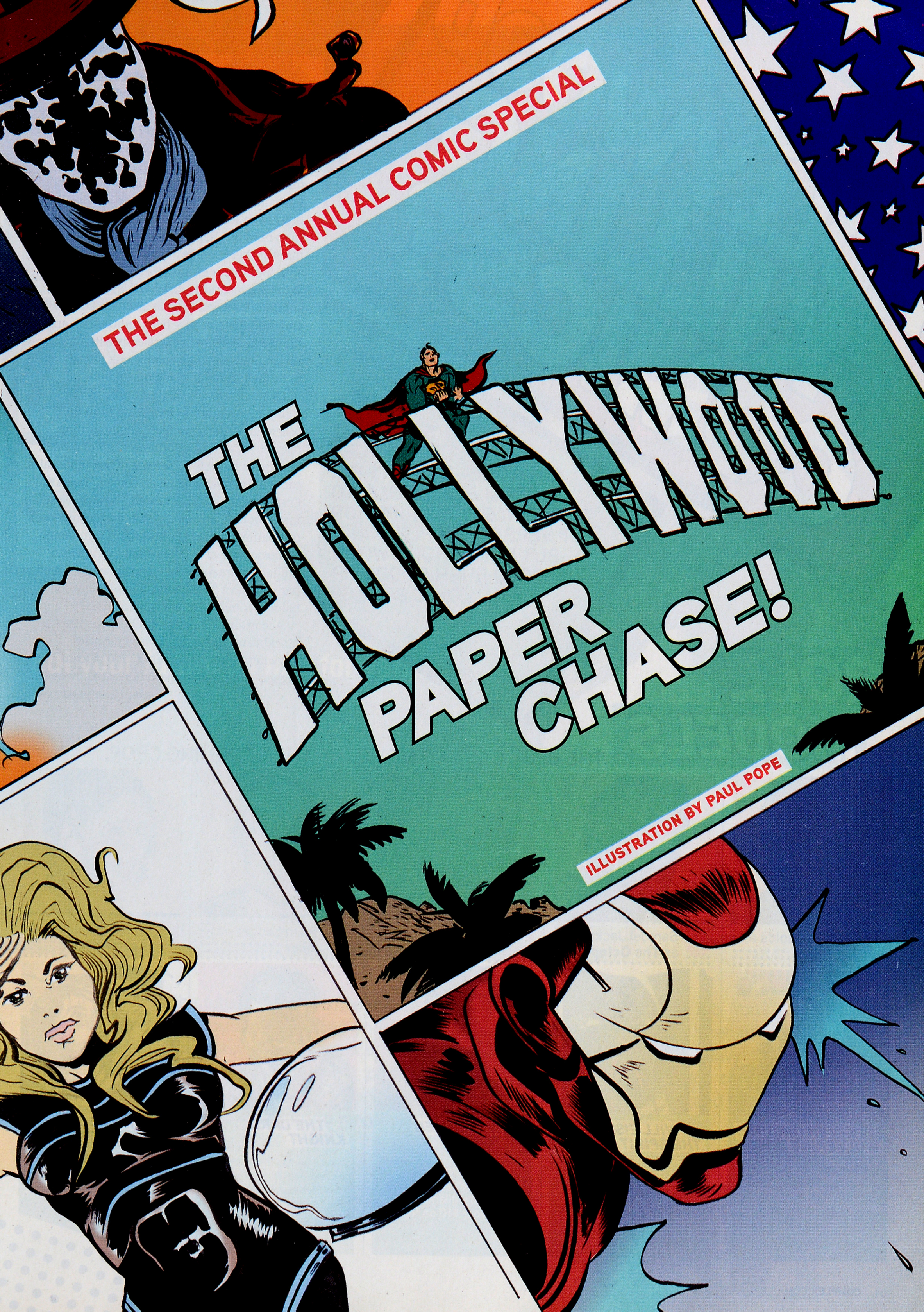
SOME OF
YOUR FAVORITE
BOOKS ARE COMING
TO THE BIG SCREEN IN
THE NEXT YEAR.
COMPLEX GIVES
YOU A FRONT-
ROW SEAT.



THE SECOND ANNUAL COMIC SPECIAL

THE HOLLYWOOD PAPER CHASE!

ILLUSTRATION BY PAUL POPE

IS HOLLYWOOD KILLING COMICS?

IT'S NOT JUST SUPERHEROES ANYMORE—EVERYTHING FROM *PERSEPOLIS* TO *SCOTT PILGRIM* IS RIPE FOR SILVERSCREEN PLUCKING. BUT IS THE HOLLYWOOD GOLD RUSH GOOD FOR COMIC BOOKS?

BY LAURA HUDSON

REMEMBER WHEN THE PHRASE "COMIC-BOOK MOVIE" MEANT one Superman installment every couple of years? Or, later, a rapidly deteriorating Batman franchise? Well, fast-forward a few years to 2007: *Spider-Man 3* made $151 million its opening weekend, and the Fantastic Four series, despite offering little more than Jessica Alba in Lycra, continued to go hard like Ben Grimm. Over the next 12 months there will be at least nine releases, with four major events (*Hellboy II*, *Iron Man*, *Dark Knight* and *The Incredible Hulk*) this summer. Live-action adaptations of both *Akira* and *Scott Pilgrim* have been announced, and the rumor mill swirls ceaselessly with whispers and half-truths about comic-book movies stuck in various stages of development hell.

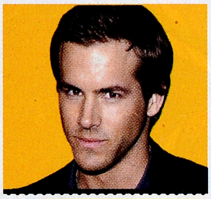
Once a niche industry on the brink of collapse, comic books have leapt from the basement to the big screen, finally earning respect—or at least enormous sums of money. "Last year, roughly 10 percent of box-office sales came from movies based on comics," says DC Comics publisher Paul Levitz. These movies make money hand-over-fist, but are comic book companies reaping the benefits? Do millions of moviegoers at a Spider-Man movie mean millions more readers at the comic shop? And perhaps most fundamentally: Is Hollywood helping comics—or just helping itself?

According to Levitz, Tim Burton's 1989 blockbuster *Batman* drove comic sales anywhere from 50 percent to 100 percent higher—but today's expectations are nowhere

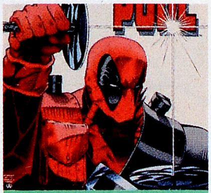
[CONTINUED ON PAGE 69]

ROLE MODELS

THE BEST CASTING MOVES OF THE UPCOMING CROP.



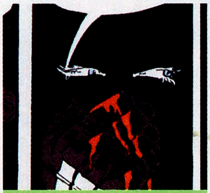
Ryan Reynolds as **Deadpool**



IN: ***X-MEN ORIGINS: WOLVERINE***

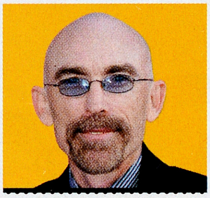
Wisecracking charmer plays wisecracking charmer. Way to stretch yourself, Reynolds.

Samuel Jackson as **The Octopus**

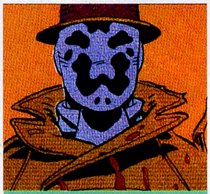


IN: ***WILL EISNER'S THE SPIRIT***

It's been a hot minute since Señor Jackson went the archvillain route. We, for one, will be waiting for him to eat a tasty burger.



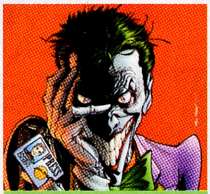
Jackie Earle Haley as **Rorschach**



IN: ***WATCHMEN***

If you think someone who portrayed a child molester in *Little Children* isn't the best choice to play a psychotic vigilante, then go spend your $10 on *Richie Rich 2*.

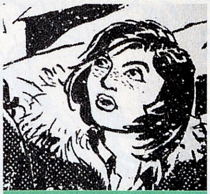
Heath Ledger as **Joker**



IN: ***THE DARK KNIGHT***

Maybe it's the makeup, or possibly the whole untimely death thing, but we're still a little freaked out every time we see clips of this one.

Kate Beckinsale as **Carrie Stetko**



IN: ***WHITEOUT***

You know what comic character we're glad Kate Beckinsale isn't playing? Professor X's sister Cassandra Nova. That bitch is *gross*. Just sayin'.

Put your future on fast forward.

When it comes to the future, some people are content to just push “play” and let it roll. You? You want to hit the fast forward button to owning your own business someday. Making that scenario real takes leadership skills, education and experience. The kinds of things the United States Navy teaches and rewards every day. **The Navy makes it possible** to get the money you need for college and the leadership experience you need to achieve your goals in life. Accelerate your future and find the person in you. **Dial 1-800-USA-NAVY or go to navy.com.**

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presents...

Old School COOL

SO, ARE YOU OLD SCHOOL COOL OR NEW SCHOOL HIP? LET MOUNTAIN DEW HELP YOU FIGURE IT OUT!

From two-way pagers to pocket-sized PDAs, vinyl records to MP3s—over the years we have seen some serious transformations in everything from the styles we wear to how we listen to our favorite tunes.

Today, Mountain Dew wants to know—are you "old school cool" or "new school hip?" Would you rather break it down in your British Knights or go for a skate in your Supra high-tops?

To help you figure it out, log onto Complex.com/PROMOTIONS/MTDEW to take our online quiz and to see videos of how other fans of the old and supporters of the new are rocking today's and yesterday's coolest products.

BK
BRITISH KNIGHTS

British Knights Kings SL
A street style classic.

Freestyle
NIGHT VISION
12:08
100 METERS H2O
SHARK

Freestyle Shark Classic 80s Watch
The color combos still rule.

MOTOROLA
01:Guess who won?
Celebrating at The
Grill. Let me know
if you'll be there.
TALKABOUT

Motorola T-9900 Two-Way Pager
The ORIGINAL text message.

Vinyl Records
Keep diggin' alive.

GRAND HANK
EDUCATION OF A NATION

MOUNTAIN DEW

Mountain Dew
Old school cool.

or New School HIP

Supra All Gold Perforated Skytop
The tallest high- top ever.

Limited Edition Casio G-Shock Watch
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All you'll ever need.

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AMP Energy
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Zune 80 GB MP3 Player
Your whole collection in your pocket.

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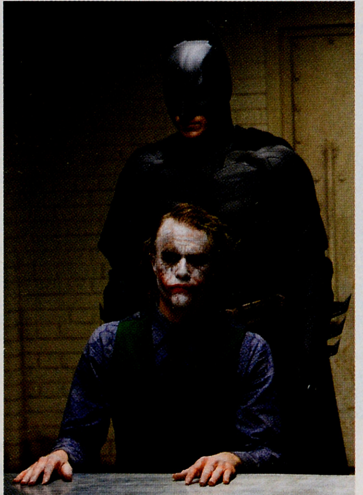
near as high. "We'll sell a few graphic novels," says Levitz of the upcoming *Dark Knight*, "but it's unlikely to have the same kind of dramatic effect." Part of the problem is that comic book movies aren't a surprise anymore. Also, picking up a superhero comic book isn't as simple as it seems. Go to the comic shop looking for a major character like Batman or Spider-Man, and you'll find four or five ongoing series, dozens (if not hundreds) of trade paperbacks spanning 60 years of history, including alternate versions of the characters in different dimensions where Spider-Man is permanently 16 and Superman is a communist. (Seriously.) Expand the scope to a group like the X-Men, and you're drowning in a morass of origins and story arcs.

Hardcore fanboys are more than happy to traipse through the swamp of continuity, but the average moviegoer...well, not so much. "There's so much crap out there with Spider-Man [on it] that they don't even know where to start," says Fantagraphics publisher Gary Groth, whose company first brought *Ghost World* to comic shelves. "Nothing scares people off faster than confusion," agrees *30 Days of Night* creator Steve Niles. "If they walk into the store and there's 100 graphic novels and 50 versions of the same character, they probably won't buy anything."

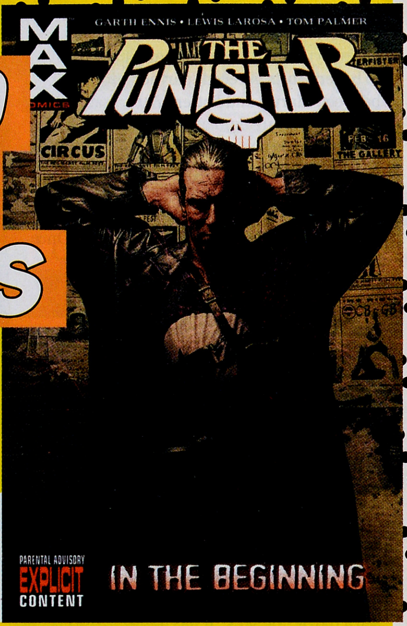
HARDCORE FANBOYS ARE MORE THAN HAPPY TO TRAIPSE THROUGH THE SWAMP OF CONTINUITY, BUT THE AVERAGE MOVIEGOER...WELL, NOT SO MUCH.

The mixed track record of comics sales may be a bit of a disappointment for publishers, but the good news is that comics sales don't really matter. The real money comes from licensing and merchandising anyway. We're not only talking Hulk Hands here. Movies give publishers a chance to license their characters

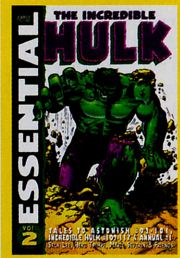


BEHIND THE SCENES

ALL THAT MOVIE MAGIC STARTED HERE. PICK UP THESE BOOKS AND BE THE INSUFFERABLE KNOW-IT-ALL YOUR FRIENDS HATE.


GARTH ENNIS • LEWIS LAROSA • TOM PALMER
MAX COMICS
THE PUNISHER
CIRCUS
PARENTAL ADVISORY EXPLICIT CONTENT
IN THE BEGINNING

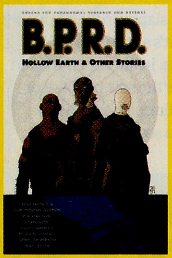
FILM: ***PUNISHER: WAR ZONE*** Dec. 5
READ: The Punisher MAX
Frank Castle's not a superhero, he's just a pissed-off do-gooder with a shitload of guns. Get ready for a bit of the old ultraviolence.



FILM: ***THE INCREDIBLE HULK*** June 13
READ: The Incredible Hulk Essential Vol. 2
The story of a nerd who develops shocking power, a.k.a. *The Biography of DJ AM.*

BATMAN
THE LONG HALLOWEEN

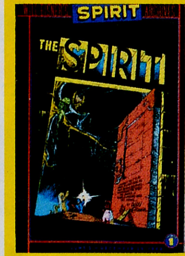
FILM: ***THE DARK KNIGHT*** July 18
READ: Batman the Long Halloween
Frank Miller's dark vision of Batman changed comics forever—but more importantly, it let Chris Nolan exorcise the Joel Schumacher demon.



FILM: ***HELLBOY II: THE GOLDEN ARMY*** July 11
READ: BPRD: Hollow Earth & Other Stories
Mike Mignola's lovable demonspawn continues to rebel against his bloodline by, like, doing good and stuff with his colleagues.

GREG RUCKA STEVE LIEBER
WHITEOUT
VOLUME ONE

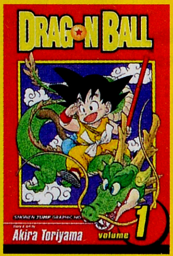
FILM: ***WHITEOUT*** October
READ: Whiteout
When a fine-but-firm U.S. marshal investigates a murder in Antarctica, she has to contend with a face full of the white stuff. Sounds like our kind of movie.



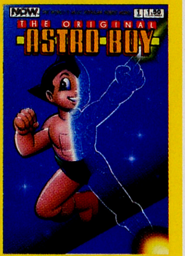
FILM: ***WILL EISNER'S THE SPIRIT*** Jan. 16, 2009
READ: The Spirit Archives, Vol. 1
One of the most visually innovative comics in history, Eisner's stories of a masked crime-fighter influenced artists from Jack Cole to R. Kelly. What?! He's the Pied Piper of R&B!

THE BEST OF
WOLVERINE
VOLUME ONE

FILM: ***X-MEN ORIGINS: WOLVERINE*** May 1, 2009
READ: The Best of Wolverine Vol. 1
Yes, everyone's favorite adamantium-enhanced antisocial mutant has parents. And they're Posh and Becks! Wait, no, they're scientists.



FILM: ***DRAGONBALL*** April 9, 2009
READ: Dragon Ball, Vol. 1
A young boy has to collect magical balls and then, uh, juggle them to defeat enemies. Fun fact: He trains at Neverland Ranch.



FILM: ***ASTRO BOY*** 2009
READ: Astro Boy, Vol. 1
The first blockbuster manga follows a powerful robot boy as he gets sold to the circus, then escapes to fight crime. It's like *Pinocchio*, but with more robots. And fewer racist overtones.

for everything from video games to cologne to boxer shorts. A recent partnership, between Marvel and Pottery Barn, resulted in kids' furniture emblazoned with *Spider-Man* graphics.

Perhaps the most visible influence of Hollywood on comics is the San Diego Comic Convention, an annual comics mecca that attracts over 150,000 fans every summer. Once focused on the actual comics, the event has become more about studio press junkets than comic book signings. Brian Michael Bendis, writer of *Ultimate Spider-Man* and *New Avengers,* recalls missing the convention after the birth of his child, and then returning only to be "startled at how Hollywood had taken it over, kind of to a douchey degree," as he puts it. "It didn't seem healthy."

Niles agrees: "The danger we get into is everyone starts trying to create a franchise." Although he calls selling his *30 Days* series for seven figures a "life-changing experience," he allows that he regrets the opportunism that followed in the deal's wake. "I've met a lot of people in recent years who are doing it only to sell a movie," he says. "It has nothing to do with comics, or even how to use it as a medium. They really think they can just slap words and pictures together, and say, 'Look, it's a storyboard!' It's really obvious when it's an insincere effort, and people put out comics for the sole purpose of climbing to another medium. They're like zombie comics, without a soul."

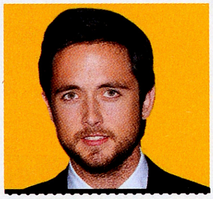
Whether or not they inspire the occasional literary abomination or sell monthly issues, movies are doing something even more important for comics: keeping the lights on. "It's no secret now that Hollywood is one of the things keeping comics afloat," says Dark Horse Publicity Director Jeremy Atkins, whose company has brought *300*, *Sin City*, and *Hellboy* to Hollywood. The infusion of money also helps independent creators keep working in an industry not known for paying the big bucks. "For an indie creator, when Hollywood buys a property from you, it's life-changing," says Bendis. "A lot of my peers fell by the wayside because they couldn't afford to practice their craft anymore. Hollywood helps them keep making comics, which is all they want to do." (When Bendis launched his creator-owned title *Powers*, his artist Michael Avon Oeming not only needed a second job, he had to draw the book at night while working in a security booth.)

The creative crossover between movies and comics doesn't end with content, either—the writers themselves have made moves in both directions. Famously, *Y: The Last Man*'s Brian K. Vaughan joined the writing staff of *Lost*, and *Lost's* Damon Lindelof, *Buffy*'s Joss Whedon, *Clerks*'s Kevin Smith, and *Grey's Anatomy*'s Allan Heinberg have all tried their hand at monthly titles.

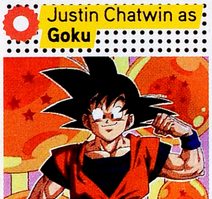
Although comics pay a fraction of what a writer can stand to make from film or television, the medium attracts Hollywood talent because of what Bendis calls "the latitude given to the creative community. It's amazing how many of us are given the freedom to express ourselves completely." Contrast that to the experience of many comic creators in Hollywood—Bendis once met with MTV for a *Spider-Man* animated series and was asked whether Spider-Man "really had to be a spider"—and it's likely that comics won't be losing its talent pool any time soon. In the meantime, all comic fans can hope for is that the two sides learn to play nice; crappy movies we're used to, but crappy comics are more than we can take.

CHARACTER ASSASSINATION

FOR EVERY GREAT CASTING DECISION, THERE ARE TWICE AS MANY BAD ONES.



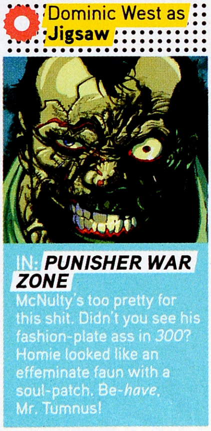
Justin Chatwin as **Goku**



IN: ***DRAGONBALL***

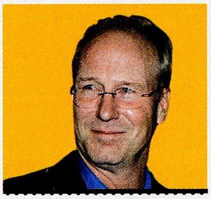
What's with all these white people in an anime flick? This dude can't get the balls, and we mean that in a bad way. Asian pride, stand up!

Dominic West as **Jigsaw**

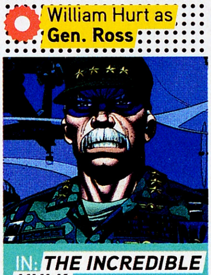


IN: ***PUNISHER WAR ZONE***

McNulty's too pretty for this shit. Didn't you see his fashion-plate ass in *300*? Homie looked like an effeminate faun with a soul-patch. Be-*have*, Mr. Tumnus!



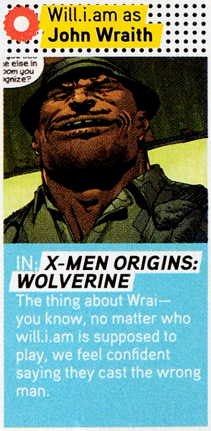
William Hurt as **Gen. Ross**



IN: ***THE INCREDIBLE HULK***

Thunderbolt Ross is a certified hard-ass. William Hurt plays tweed-jacketed professors who have weepy sex with deaf broads. You do the math.

Will.i.am as **John Wraith**



IN: ***X-MEN ORIGINS: WOLVERINE***

The thing about Wrai—you know, no matter who will.i.am is supposed to play, we feel confident saying they cast the wrong man.

Maggie Gyllenhaal as **Rachel Dawes**

IN: ***THE DARK KNIGHT***

Sure, we're supposed to suspend disbelief, but Ms. G just doesn't seem like the type who would enter a sham marriage with a megastar in order to deflect rumors about his sexuality.

(PHOTOS) CHATWIN: J. MARTINEZ/AP PHOTO; WEST, GYLLENHAAL: JENNIFER GRAYLOCK/AP PHOTO; HURT: CAROLYN KASTER/AP PHOTO; WILL.I.AM: DANNY MOLOSHOK/AP PHOTO; GOKU: AKIRA TORIYAMA; JIGSAW, GENERAL ROSS, JOHN WRAITH: MARVEL COMICS

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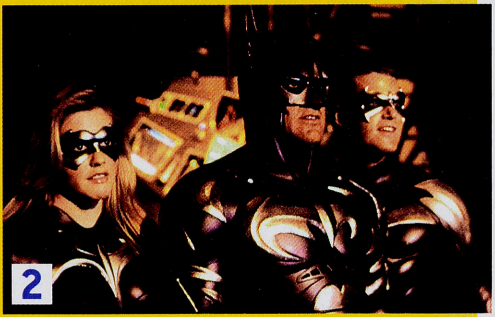
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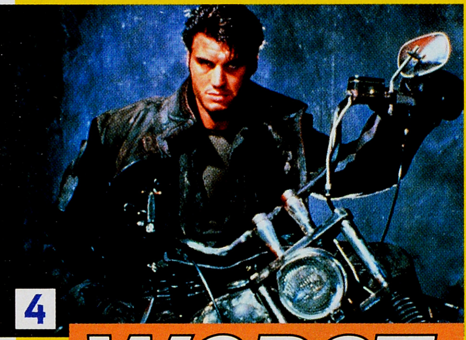
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1

WORST. ADAPTATION. EVER.

IT'S NOT ALL SPIDEY AND X-MEN, PEOPLE. HERE'S WHAT HAPPENED WHEN PEN AND INK MET LAME AND STINK.

6 SUPERGIRL (1984)
Which is worse: that Christopher Reeve bowed out of a cameo appearance or that the main villain is Faye fucking Dunaway?

5 GHOST RIDER (2007)
As if it wasn't an egregious enough offense exhuming Nic Cage's gray and weathered corpse, this one actually managed to make Eva Mendes unwatchable.

4 PUNISHER (1989)
Dolph Lundgren as the Punisher. Maaaan. We don't have to write anything else, do we? We can just agree to walk away and forget it happened at all?

3 CAPTAIN AMERICA (1991)
The closest this turd comes to a comic-book movie is Ned Beatty. And when Lex Luthor's henchman is the only credibility you can scrounge up, you got problems.

2 BATMAN & ROBIN (1997)
Not only does the Batsuit have nipples, but the BATSUIT HAS NIPPLES. Oh, and the Batsuit has nipples.

1 SUPERMAN IV: THE QUEST FOR PEACE (1987)
Remember Nuclear Man? This dude was like the Village People version of a supervillain. Nice codpiece, pinkberry.

ODDS AND MONSTERS

HERE'S THE VEGAS LINE INVOLVING VARIOUS UP-COMING COMIC MOVIE PROJECTS.

7 to 2
Common walks off the set of the upcoming *Justice League* after trying to rename Green Lantern "The Chamomile Avenger." (We kid!)

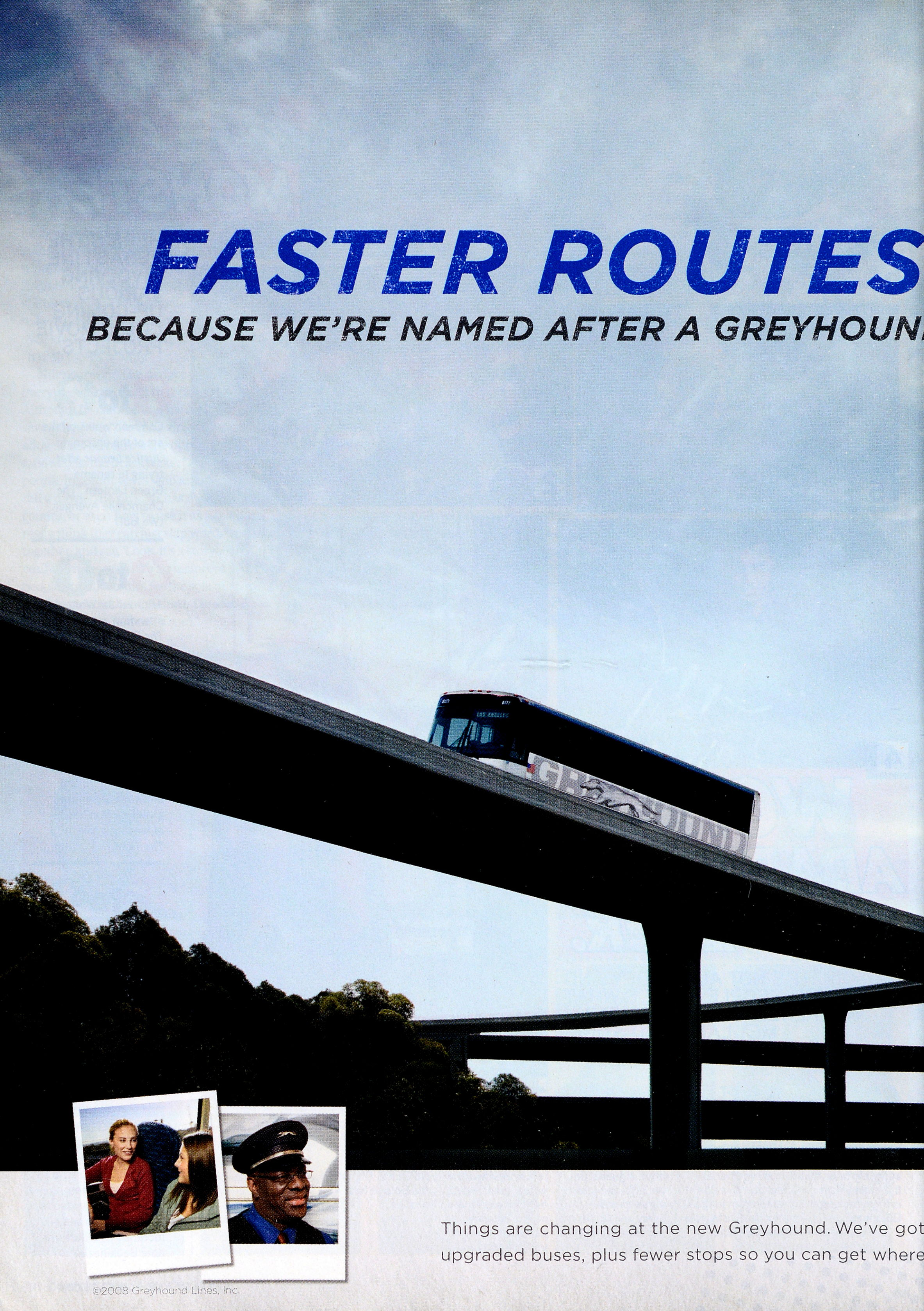
4 to 1
Michael Jai White, attending premiere of *The Dark Knight*, leaves theater in tears after realizing Gambit will NEVER get his own movie.

9 to 2
Britney Spears and Lindsay Lohan stage a vadge-off in hopes of landing a role in *The Flash*.

15 to 1
Jigsaw concocts a fake serial killer to get the Punisher's attention.

6 to 1
Dragonball's Emmy Rossum gives basement dwellers blue balls.

3 to 1
Whiteout is marred in controversy when thousands file lawsuits for being promised six months in the dark with Kate Beckinsale.


FASTER ROUTES
BECAUSE WE'RE NAMED AFTER A GREYHOUN
LOS ANGELES
GREYHOUND

Things are changing at the new Greyhound. We've got
upgraded buses, plus fewer stops so you can get where

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you're going faster. Which only seems right with a name like ours. Visit greyhound.com for schedules and tickets.

THE NEW GREYHOUND
WE'RE ON OUR WAY

MARVEL LUST!
COMIC-CON
TICKETS ON SALE NOW AT MIDTOWN!

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VIRTUE
EXIA
HELLBLAZER
HELLBLAZER
HAWK
GREEN ARROW
B.P.R.D.
KILLING GROUND
REBEL

JACKET BY D&G; SHORTS BY AMERICAN APPAREL; SHOES BY DIESEL

OPPOSITE PAGE: *BODYSUIT BY VICTORIA'S SECRET; VEST BY KILLAH*

JUST BECAUSE THE COMIC SHOP IS AIR CONDITIONED DOESN'T MEAN IT WON'T BE A LONG, HOT SUMMER—THESE WONDER WOMEN CAN MAKE ANYONE A MAN OF STEEL.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY DERRICK SANTINI
STYLING BY TOMOKO YANO

AG
Housewives at Play
Lack of Lingerie Special
Rear
Rubber Disciple
Submit!
Arsinoe
French Kiss
Nasty Girls!
XXX Rated Hardcore Action!
New This Week
Comix French Kiss
Please Put All Comics Back in Their Bags
Comics $Various
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PHOTOGRAPHER MIKO LIM: "THIS WAS ACTUALLY A FULL-LENGTH ROBE, BUT GRACE WAS LIKE, 'WOULDN'T IT BE HOTTER IF I HAD IT ALL HIKED UP MY ASS?'"

FLIP NOW FOR...
BBQ GOODNESS (P. 36),
SUMMER COCKTAILS (P. 38), **AND**
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THE 5TH
DOOR